

13 March 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian

Contingency Plan for Dominican College Portstewart in the event of a school closure due to Covid-19- update 13 March

I would like to share with you the plans that have been set in place in Dominican College Portstewart in the event of a school closure as a result of the protective measures against the spread of Covid-19. To date we have been following the Public Health Authority advice as circulated by the Department of Education.

Our staff and students have been practising good hygiene habits as advised by the PHA and posters are displayed prominently around the school. We have advised everyone with new coughs or fevers to self-isolate.

All students and teachers have a school email address and by using Microsoft Office 365 teachers have the means to communicate with pupils remotely. Please ask your son/daughter about this and they will show you how they can access their account using the school login details. From here pupils can access email and google classroom.

In the event of a closure teachers and designated support staff are planning to be in contact with students working remotely. Pupils should check their Google Classroom for subjects daily. We ask that school hours are respected in online communications. Understanding must be given to the fact that Broadband access may be limited in some areas.

Students have also been advised to bring home necessary books and notes thus enabling study and school work to be completed from home.

Students should feel reassured that they have a lot of work covered and the examination classes especially should take the opportunity to consolidate their learning on the specification material they have completed to date.

We will keep you advised and up to date on any further developments. In the event of a sudden school closure, parents will be informed by text message in the first instance, however the media may take precedence in this regard. We will continue all other contact by text and through our social media sites – Twitter, Facebook and school website.

We will keep in our prayers those who have been directly affected by the Covid-19 and medical professionals at the forefront of treating this virus.

Yours sincerely
Rosemary Ronan
Principal