



Update and Contingency Plan in the event of a school closure related to the COVID-19 virus

11th March 2020

Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s)

You will be aware that developments concerning the virus are unfolding day by day and so we would like to update you with the measures we have taken to date regarding the COVID-19 virus, and share with you the plans we have set in place in the event of a related school closure.

The school has been following the advice of the HSE and the DES in relation to COVID-19:

- Teachers have shared good hygiene habits with students as provided by the HSE
- HSE posters are displayed throughout the school reminding the school community to wash their hands often, cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, and avoid close contact with others. Students may also bring their own supplementary supplies of tissues, wipes and hand sanitisers
- Hand sanitisers are provided at the school entrance
- Our cleaning staff disinfect door handles and hard surfaces at regular intervals throughout the day

Preparations for school closure:

Our teachers have been preparing for the possibility of school closure in the following ways:

- Students have been advised to bring home all necessary books and notes that would enable them to continue to do school work and study at home at short notice. Most school books are available as e-books and students have been made aware of how to access these.
- Teachers will advise students what is necessary to bring to school daily.
- Some teachers have begun to assign a two week block of work for their classes that students can work on from home.
- All students and teachers have a school email address and some teachers will use these via Office 365 or Edmodo, as a means of communicating work to students at home.

Communication in the event of school closure:

In the event of a sudden school closure parents will be informed by text message and a message will be posted on the school website.

What you can do:

- Ensure that your contact details are up to date by logging on to your Loreto College Swords VS Ware account.
- Ensure that your daughter brings home the necessary books/notes she will need to continue with study or schoolwork.
- Check that your daughter knows how to access her e-books if required.

We will keep you advised and up to date on any developments pertaining to school events or trips as matters unfold.

We ask your prayers for those who have been directly affected by the COVID-19 virus, and our thoughts are with the healthcare workers who care for them.

Yours sincerely

Peter Macnamara

Principal

Sharon Gunn

Deputy Principal