



Dear Parent/Guardian

This is an unprecedented situation and we are conscious as a school community to find solutions in the best interests of your daughter. In order to minimise the impact on teaching and learning in Loreto College, it is hoped you will be able to access work via online learning platforms such as Office365 and Edmodo. All students have school based email addresses and therefore teachers and students can contact each other following our school acceptable user guidelines. Many teachers will assign work, share materials, create assignments and send feedback using these online platforms. Your daughter is expected to continue with school work every day and to check Microsoft teams on a daily basis to see updates in this regard.

The State Exams Commission will direct us on the timings of the State exam projects and orals. As of now I can only say all exams etc. for the week beginning 23 March have been postponed. All updates and information from the state exams commissions will be communicated to you immediately.

In order to assist your daughter your attention is drawn to a range of online resources from the Dept. of Education that will provide ongoing support during school closure. Please see list below of online resources sent to us from the Loreto Education Office.

The mock results for 3rd and 6th years will be live this afternoon on your vsware account. If you need to contact the school office with regard to any of the above, please do so by email at office@loretoswords.ie. Please let us know by email if the school care team of Ms Gunn, Ms Cronin, Ms Kennedy or Ms Parker can help your daughter in any way. Ms Kennedy can be contacted directly at careers@loretoswords.ie

In line with advice from the Public Health Emergency Team all students are urged to continue to practice Social Distancing and to minimize physical contact with each other to help avoid the spread of Covid 19. This should include minimizing social contact, avoiding meeting up and keeping physical space between them. You the Parents and Guardians are asked to support your daughters to maintain this approach.

I trust that you all take care of yourselves and your family in these uncertain times. The prayers and thoughts of the school staff is with those who are effected the most by this situation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Peter Macnamara

Principal

From the Dept of Education:

In order to assist all schools to support students your attention is drawn to a range of online resources to assist schools to provide ongoing support to students during school closures.

[Scoilnet](#) is a resource to support schools, teachers, students and parents. Scoilnet has a number of home usage supports for teachers and students to benefit from. These are detailed on pages 3 and 4 in Appendices 1 and 2 attached. Scoilnet will be updating the material available on its website regularly.

In addition to the Scoilnet there are other resources available to schools. The Digital Technology team has developed a new dedicated webpage of curated content to support schools and teachers engaged in distance learning in order to provide continuity to pupils/students. The page can be accessed at:

<https://www.pdst.ie/distancelearning>.

The Loreto Education Centre has sent us the following list of online resources and suggested activities.

We hope that you find these useful as you continue to work at home during the school closure.

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

Online resources:

BrainPop
Curiosity Stream
Tynker
Outschool
Udemy
iReady
Beast Academy (Math)
Khan Academy
Creative Bug
Discovery Education

YouTube Channels:

Crash Course Kids
Science Channel
SciShow Kids
National Geographic Kids
Free School
Geography Focus
TheBrainScoop
SciShow

Kids Learning Tube
Geeek Gurl Diaries
Mike Likes Science
Science Max
SoulPancake

Lots of board games, library books (and Kindle), tinkering/upcycling with household junk, etc.

Scholastic has created a free learning from home site with 20+ days of learning and activities:

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

Pretend to travel the world. Go on a virtual tour of these 12 famous museums:

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

<https://allinonehomeschool.com>

List of thinking games by grade:

<https://allinonehomeschool.com/thinking/>

More free learning websites that you can use:

<https://www.pbskids.org/>

<https://www.starfall.com/h/>

<https://abcya.com/>

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

<https://www.splashlearn.com/>

<https://www.storylineonline.net/>

<https://www.pbskids.org/>

<https://www.highlightskids.com/>

<https://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

<https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

<https://www.mathgametime.com/>

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

<https://www.literactive.com/Home/index.asp>

<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/>

<https://www.switchzoo.com/>

<https://www.seussville.com/>

<https://www.turtlediary.com/>

<https://www.e-learningforkids.org/>