



7 May 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian

Our third year students have experienced a very disrupted period of learning in 2019/20 because of the unprecedented nature of the Covid-19 crisis. Our teachers have used a wide range of online approaches to mitigate the effects of this disrupted schooling and well done to your daughter for working so well with all her teachers. As you are aware the Department of Education has decided that it is not possible for students to undertake the normal Junior Cycle final examinations this year.

Instead the Department of Education has stated that all students will receive:

- 1 **A State Certificate of completion of Junior Cycle from the Department of Education.**
Students should receive a State Certification confirming that they have completed three years of Junior Cycle education in a number of subjects. This certification will be provided by the Department of Education in the Autumn of 2020.
- 2 **A School Report setting out the learning achievements of students in Junior Cycle.**
Students should receive a written report on the broad range of learning that they have achieved in each subject at the end of Junior Cycle. This assessment of their learning will be provided by their teachers and will be available in June 2020.

In Loreto College Swords, this School Report will be a combination of:

- Grades based on evidence available from examinations in 2nd and 3rd year and may include recent/ current work
- Classroom-Based Assessments (CBA's) completed in 2nd and 3rd year
- Practical, Project and Journal work completed in 2nd and 3rd year
- Students' achievements in the School Wellbeing Programme
- Students' own accounts of learning in other areas of school life (*Known as Other Areas of Learning. Your daughter has already submitted this*)

The staff of the school have agreed that there will not be a final additional assessment at the end of this month cognisant of the disrupted learning that students have experienced in 2020, and in recognition that some students may be unable to undertake such additional assessments. This is because of issues related to access to technology and other issues arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. We believe that the above report will paint a true picture of your daughter's academic journey over the past 3 years. We

do ask that your daughter continues to engage with her teachers for the next number of weeks and continues with her assignments as this may form part of her average grade.

Once again, we thank you for your continued support of the school as we move through these challenging times. We hope that this letter gives you the clarity needed at this time regarding Junior Cycle. We also hope that this will reduce your daughter's anxiety and allow her to complete her Junior Cycle journey with renewed energy.

Kind regards

Mr Peter Macnamara
Principal

Ms Sharon Gunn
Deputy Principal