



12 May 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope this email finds you and your families well this morning. We are very aware that the past few weeks have been very disconcerting for you and your daughter with many different messages with regard to the Leaving Certificate appearing in mainstream and social media. On Friday last, 8 May a decision was announced by Minister Joe McHugh regarding the format the Leaving Certificate will now take. We have posted the full and detailed explanation of the Calculated Grades Processes as laid down by the DES on the school's website. It is also available by clicking on this link:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d8920c-leaving-cert-2020/>

Hopefully, this will help to clarify things but you will understandably have many questions that we will be happy to answer once we have had an opportunity to process the implications of the decision. I have advised staff, in line with government recommendations, not to answer questions directly or indeed to communicate with you or your daughter from here on in. I am sure that you understand that this is very important in protecting the integrity of the process. Should you need to contact us for any other reason you can find us at this email address office@loretoswords.ie which continues to be monitored.

I would like to say at this point that your daughter's wellbeing is paramount to us and the School Care team is available to continue to support your daughter.

Also, there will be guidance available in CAO and career guidance support from Ms Kennedy on Edmodo and Teams.

I would also like to commend your daughter for her commitment to her studies since 12 March. She has dealt with this situation in a very mature way and has developed resilience skills that will stand to her in the future.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the school during these times and indeed throughout the past 5/6 years. We plan to hold a virtual informal graduation ceremony for the class of 2020 next Thursday and there will be more information on Teams before then.

Kind regards,

Peter Macnamara, Principal