



Holy Faith Secondary School
Belgrove Road
Clontarf
Dublin 3

Telephone: 01 8331507
01 8332754

1st May 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

I am writing to you with some updates and observations. Please be assured that as soon as any further developments arise regarding the Leaving Certificate 2020, you will be contacted immediately. The most reliable guidelines are those issued on the DES and SEC websites and not through other social media. I appreciate the added stress and anxiety you are all going through but would encourage you to persevere and draw on the strength you have all shown at other times of adversity and that no one is alone.

All students and teachers are working on a programme of work to the end of May. Where courses have not been completed, work is proceeding with a view to completion by the end of May. This is an issue in many schools and I have passed concerns to SEC. Please email me directly re individual cases and I will follow up as appropriate

Where some on line classes have been taking place, I hope the issue of scheduling clashes has been resolved. Following a survey of students many wished to follow their own schedule and requested that assignment/work be set early in the day so that they could plan their day. I would expect that all students and teachers are in regular contact. I know students are working through revision plans and exam questions, with teachers offering advice and feedback. Past exam questions together with marking schemes can all be accessed on the SEC website.

At the moment, the plan is to work to the end of May, an exam timetable will issue from the SEC in early June with students encouraged to take a break in June and re-engage in July. I would be concerned about students working continuously through to the end of July implications for stress and burn-out.

It is hoped that a return to school and a revised timetable can be facilitated at least two weeks prior to the 29th July, depending on health and safety advice at that time. Contingency planning is under way with regards access to the building, classroom layout to accommodate social distancing, one way system, one hour classes to include time for movement, timetable of classes, cleaning before and after classroom use, access to bathrooms etc.

On a practical level, only a small number of sessions of supervised study for the third session were completed. Monies will be refunded via direct payment for those who paid electronically or cheque.

I would hope that the 6th years will have an opportunity to mark the end of 6th year albeit not in the traditional format. Having surveyed students and spoken to the Prefect Executive, I would hope that we can mark the end of 6th year 2020 in a novel and imaginative manner. All suggestions are welcome and will be considered. The Debutants Ball for the class of 2020 has been arranged for 8th September. It would be my wish that we can proceed with that date but all will be dependent on health guidelines and I will keep you all updated.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre Gogarty,
Principal

Contact details:

Principal: principal@holyfaithclontarf.com

Deputy Principal: Siobhan.sheerin@holyfaithclontarf.com

Year Head: mary.king@holyfaithclontarf.com

Learning Support: amy.odonnell@holyfaithclontarf.com

Guidance Counsellor: guidance@holyfaithclontarf.com

