



Our Lady's Grove Secondary School

Our Lady's Grove, Goatstown Road, Dublin 14

Good morning 1st, 2nd, and 5th Year's Students/Parents/Guardians,

Now that there has been some certainty supplied for the next month, I wanted to communicate with you all as to how we intend to proceed up to mid-term.

The feedback that we have received from parents, students and teachers is that the new timetable has made remote learning more effective for many. We are delighted that this has been the case. For some, regardless of the digital or organizational interventions, nothing will really replace in-person teaching. We are acutely aware of this and hope to have all students back in school as soon as is possible

In our assemblies with the students, class-contact time has repeatedly been cited as the number one priority. With the intended return to school now suggested for March, we believe that it would be a better use of the remote learning time to conduct appropriate online assessments, freeing up space for in-person teaching and learning on our return.

In our assemblies with the students they clearly understood the importance of regular assessment and feedback. We agree, and as such appropriate online assessments will be posted to Teams at a pre-arranged time and the students will upload their solutions for corrections. These assessment tasks will be during the normal 2hour timetable from the 8th to the 12th of February. Individual subject departments and teachers will communicate their expectations to you.

The integrity of the assessments is obviously important for everyone. We would appreciate parental assistance with impressing on the students that the purpose of these assessments is to get a picture as to where they actually are at in their learning. Any actions which interfere with the clarity and accuracy of that picture does no good for any concerned. With this in mind we would strongly advise that all relevant books are removed from the room and there are no other devices present but for the one recording their assessment response. This must be connected to the Teams call at all times.

Reporting to all parents will take place in early March. We believe that this will afford you a clear indication of the student's progress across the lockdown period.

We look forward to everyone's return to the school in the not too distant future

Yours sincerely

Colm Dooley

Principal
Our Lady's Grove

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