COLÁISTE ABBÁIN

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Friday, 08 January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I write in relation to the operation of the school for the period of closure from Monday, 11 January 2021. All year groups will be taught remotely for the full duration of the school closure.

As we prepare to start fully into remote Teaching and Learning please note the following:

We are familiar with Remote Learning and held a TEAMS week in November to ensure staff and students had an Induction Week on the Platform.

Contact via TEAMS with students is the default, common platform which we are using. Students are asked to engage with TEAMS and ensure notifications are switched on. Students are expected to be in remote attendance for each class. Parents/guardians have an important role to play in encouraging this.

There is no expectation that 'Class' takes place at the normal Timetabled time each day. We have drafted a **Blocked Timetable** to ensure flexibility for students and avoid an overload of classes. Teachers will schedule their classes for 1 hour on Teams on the designated day. This timetable is provided as an attached document.

We will continue to update you regarding guidance received from the DES and/or the State Examinations Commission regarding future planning for the Leaving and Junior Certificate Examinations.

Normal school support personnel will continue to be available in the coming weeks e.g. Guidance Counsellors, BFL, SCP, Year Heads, Tutors, Class Teachers, Learning Support and Senior Management.

The School email (info@colaisteabbain.ie) will be managed from 9am ~ 4.30pm each working day during the closure period. This is the recommended way to communicate with the school. Voicemail messages left on the answering machine will be replied to via Email, so please ensure an Email address is provided with voicemail message.

The school building is closed to students until further notice. Our main way of communicating with families will be the Letters to Families section of our website. Accordingly, please keep a close eye on the School Website, Facebook and Twitter feeds in the coming weeks.

Together we will work through this and we will return to doing what we do best as a school community.

Yours sincerely,

John Nolan. Principal.