

Dundalk Grammar School

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SAPERE AUDE

DUNDALK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

28th April 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope that you and your family are well.

You will have heard that the Minister for Education & Skills, Joe McHugh TD has confirmed the Leaving Certificate examinations are due to commence on Wednesday 29th July. The school is currently working on Health and Safety arrangements to facilitate the examinations and we will get back to you when the final details of the Leaving Certificate timetable are published.

In the meanwhile, I would urge all 6th Yr students to concentrate their energies on examination work that they can do at home and not to lose any sleep about the LC Practicals. Arrangements to support those 6th Yr students are being organised and we trust this will lessen unease in these stressful circumstances. Please ensure that all coursework, due to be completed at home, is finished before the end of May and returned to the subject teacher. For example History and Politics. With the delay in the state examinations, the next few weeks will be demanding and arduous for our students to keep their study momentum going. With our support, and with patience and resolve, they can go into their examinations as well prepared as possible. I recently organised to meet the 6th Yr students via Zoom and plan to continue this over the next few weeks to answer any questions they might have.

In relation to Junior Certificate examinations, these are due to have been replaced by school-based examinations and assessment early in the new school year, the Minister has advised schools not to make any local decisions concerning assessment at Junior Certificate level but to wait for the final decision from his department. Such decisions are to be applied across all schools and it is hoped we hear this news by the end of the week. As a school we are very conscious of the uncertainty and anxiety this has caused to our 3rd Yr students, a decision on how DGS will conduct JC exams will be communicated to you as soon as feasible.