



13th April 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians of 6th Year,

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well at this time. By now most Leaving Certificate students will have completed their Orals/Music Practical exams. I wish to commend our students on their overall effort made during the Orals/Practical exams and encourage them to continue this effort to ensure they achieve their best in June.

I want to advise you of the many ways that they and the school can help your daughter from now until June.

Attendance

Firstly, it's important to note that there is a significant number of weeks remaining in the school year – I really wish to emphasise that [Attendance for the full day is crucial for a successful Leaving Certificate exam](#). This has always been the case and it is more important than ever, given the disruption caused by Covid 19.

We see time and again, how there is a strong link between a student's attendance and their results in the Leaving Certificate exams. In general, the better a student's attendance, then the higher their academic results will be and the more likely it is that they will gain the necessary points for courses of their choice.

Therefore, I strongly advise that unless it is unavoidable (e.g. Covid 19 diagnosis or other health/unavoidable reason), then all 6th Year students must be in school every day for the full day. This is very much in students' best interests at this stage. Teachers cannot go back over classwork missed due to absences.

It is also important to note that Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses require a reference for school attendance for any student who applies.

I ask you to please discuss these points with your child and ensure full attendance up to the Leaving Certificate Exam.

Exam Strategy

There is still a lot of time for your child to strengthen their ability in any subject between now and June and there are many supports available to help students to do so. Some of these supports are:

1. The use of **Studyclix** and past exam papers – these are very effective for revision and testing yourself on topics and marking schemes are provided.
2. The **Subject Help Desks** are available to all students. This support desk runs at lunch times each day and students can find out the day for specific subjects on the notice board in their classroom or from the Student Council.

Bernadette Fitzgerald
Principal



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3. **Easter study** is available to 6th years this year from Tuesday April 19th - Friday 22nd April 2022 – These are supervised study sessions from 9:30am – 12:30pm each day in the school. This is a great opportunity for students to maintain a good routine over the Easter holidays. Students were informed about this before the break, but if there is any student who still wishes to sign up for Easter Study they may still do so by emailing Ms Fitzgerald.
4. Students are encouraged to work in **Study Buddy Groups**, whereby they share notes and exam resources with one another. This can save a lot of valuable time in preparing for different sections on exam papers.

I hope and encourage all students to avail of these supports and take the opportunity to build up confidence and ability in their subjects before June. It is so important that all students work with their teachers and communicate with them on areas they are finding difficult.

As the Leaving Certificate exams approach I am mindful of the stresses and worries our students are experiencing at this time. The Sixth Year Guidance Counsellor is available to speak with you and your child if you wish to discuss any concerns that you may have.

Again, I wish the very best for your child and encourage our students to take the opportunities available to help them succeed in June and in their future career.

Yours Sincerely,

Bernadette Fitzgerald

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