March 19th, 2020

**Re: School closure update**

Dear Parents,

These are strange and unprecedented times which has resulted in schools across the country being shut with our students being asked to work and study from home. All of our teachers are uploading resources, and work to be undertaken at home to support our students and ensure that they are up to date in so far as is possible for their studies. These can be accessed through Microsoft Office 365 which is a tab on the top of the school website home page on [www.knockbegcollege.ie](http://www.knockbegcollege.ie) All students have a unique logon to allow them access the relevant information and upload homework for teachers to correct. If work was printed at home or completed in a copy, then a photograph can be taken if necessary and sent to your teacher by email.

If you cannot access Office 365 then please send an email to Mr. Cody whose school email is [pcody@knockbegcollege.ie](mailto:pcody@knockbegcollege.ie)

All students should follow a timetable of work and study while schools remain closed. The simplest format is to follow your daily school timetable and spend 40 minutes on each subject that you would normally have during a school day. This will work well for our younger students. For Senior students I would suggest that you spent 1 to 1.5 hours daily for each subject on your timetable completing assignments from your teachers and revising a section of the course completed during the previous school term.

Our Leaving certificate students will naturally be worried about their work and what will happen over the coming weeks. We do not have the answers at present. We will do all that we can to keep you up to date and provide support until we return to school. The minister for Education has just announced that all exam students will receive 100% in their Oral Examinations in Irish, Modern Foreign Languages and Practical’s. All project work will now have an extended completion date of Friday May 15th. This is a very positive development as it takes away this stress for all exam students and shows that the State Examination Commission is looking at every means possible to ensure that students are treated fairly.

If any student needs to contact the guidance counsellor for any guidance or counselling related issues, please email Mr. Hoyne as follows [bhoyne@knockbegcollege.ie](mailto:bhoyne@knockbegcollege.ie)

For general school related matters please email [info@knockbegcollege.ie](mailto:info@knockbegcollege.ie)

If you have any queries for me, please email [principal@knockbegcollege.ie](mailto:principal@knockbegcollege.ie)

Covid-19 is a very serious threat to us all. Please follow all advice as offered by the experts from the HSE and Department of Health. It seems obvious that the threat will spread across the country before matters improve. Please ensure that you and your families follow all the protocols in relation to social distancing and regular appropriate hand washing. We will update you regularly with information under the news tab on the website.

Be careful and stay safe.

Mike Carew

Mike Carew (Principal)