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## Pobalscoil Lios Na Coille Old Bawn Community School

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you are probably aware at this stage, schools are closed for students and learning will be moved online from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. Staff will be in meetings all day Monday to prepare and discuss the plan for the next few weeks. Your son/daughter should make sure that they are ready for online learning from Tuesday and spend Monday getting organised and making sure they know their password to log in to Teams. If they do not have this, they should contact Mr Molloy through the website.

In the meantime, we have redone the timetable and your son/daughter will have a new timetable issued to them on Monday. This timetable will have a mix of online live classes with their teachers and independent learning. Live classes may not last for a full hour. There may be 20 minutes meeting, then student work and the 10-minute check in at the end. Teachers will be available on chat in Teams to support the student's learning. It is important to note that just like every family, teachers are also managing their own families, but they will do their best to provide the best service they can for your son/daughter during this period.

With the new timetable, most classes will be scheduled Tuesday to Thursday. There will be some classes on Monday and Friday, but many students will have independent learning to do on those days. This learning may take many forms, but it will be directed by the teacher. We have created this new timetable to put a structure on the day for our students. We do not want them overwhelmed with work, and we would like them and their teachers to have time in the evening to switch off and recharge before the next day of online learning.

I am asking all parents to keep an eye on your child's engagement with work. Please check on VSWare regularly to see what the feedback is from teachers. This can be found on the behaviour tab. If you do not have your VSWare log in, please contact the office on Monday morning and Carol will help you out with that.

It is a very uncertain time for students, and we will be putting lots of measures in place to look after your son/daughter's wellbeing and mental health. Please continue to look at our website which will be updated daily, download our APP if you have not done so already and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

I will update you on Monday also with some more information on the week ahead. I will also be communicating with all the students in their Teams on Monday. If you have any concerns or any queries, please contact us here in the school by phone or by email. We are here to help in these very uncertain times.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Ursula McCabe

Principal