

## Coláiste Pobail na Mainistreach

Bóthar na Mainistreach, An Pórt Mór, Port Láirge

Príomhpoide: Michelle Jefford  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Colm Rice  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Helen Ní Chonchubhair  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Laura Fitzpatrick

## Abbey Community College

Abbey Road, Ferrybank, Waterford

Principal: Michelle Jefford  
Deputy Principal: Colm Rice  
Deputy Principal: Helen O'Connor  
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28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we progress in this, the last term for our students in the school year 2019-20, we begin to focus on the traditional end of year *Summer Exams*. We wish to remind all students from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> year that they will complete end of year assessments, all be it in very different conditions to previous years. These results will be communicated to you on their *Summer Report* as normal. Teachers are currently finalising these assessments and a final schedule of assessment will be issued to you and students on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Students Engagement with Online Learning:**

Your son's/daughters' teachers have completed student engagement reports based on engagement with online learning to date. Their comment is based on the work returned to the teacher for their individual subjects. This is now available to you on VSware. It is very important that students engage in and keep up to date with work online to maintain progress in all subjects. All of your son's/daughter's teachers are providing work for their classes, please ensure that they are submitting work to teachers by asking them to show you what they have completed each day and regularly check the *Behaviour Tab* on VSware for messages from teachers.

### **Engagement is reported under the following descriptors:**

Full engagement with the subject teacher and assigned tasks.
Sporadic engagement with the subject teacher and assigned tasks.
Liaising/communicating with the subject teacher – explained non-engagement with assigned tasks.
No/poor submission of assigned tasks to the subject teacher.
Only viewing/acknowledging assigned tasks posted by the subject teacher.
Yet to engage with distance learning.

### **To access the Engagement in Online Learning Report for your son/daughter:**

Go to our school website [www.abbeycommunitycollege.com](http://www.abbeycommunitycollege.com) and log into VSware. Select TERM REPORT, then select ACTIONS and PRINT to view the full report.

### **Resetting your VSware Password:**

If you have forgotten your password for VSware you can re-set it yourself once you have the username that was sent to you via text at the beginning of the school year. To do this you click the blue VS icon on our school website: [www.abbeycommunitycollege.com](http://www.abbeycommunitycollege.com). Then you scroll down and select Create/Reset Password. Next you insert your username and the last four digits of your mobile number and click Validate. You then will be diverted to another screen and you will receive a text message with a code that will allow you to reset your password. If you don't know your user name email the school on [info@abbeycommunitycollege.com](mailto:info@abbeycommunitycollege.com) and we will re-send it to you.

**We encourage all students to stay in contact with their teachers and to communicate where they are struggling in their subject or require additional support.** Not everyone will thrive in the online environment and some students may need additional support or allowances to be made. As a parent/guardian if you are worried about your son/daughter's progress please communicate this to their teachers directly via the school email address on: [info@abbeycommunitycollege.com](mailto:info@abbeycommunitycollege.com). We can only accommodate and support a student if we know they are struggling.

### Junior Cycle 2020:

We are awaiting a final decision from the Minister re. the Junior Cert./Cycle assessment options and will update you once we have more information. Please note that examination fees have been waived.

### Leaving Certificate 2020:

We are awaiting final decisions in relation to the Leaving Certificate practical examinations and timetable. We will update you as soon as we have any information.

### Leaving Certificate Fees:

We have had a number of enquiries in relation to payment of fees. The fees deadline has been extended to after the exams take place. To pay these fees you need to go to <https://fees.examinations.ie>. You will need the PIN that we gave out to students before the school closed. If your son/daughter was absent on that day, we posted that letter home.

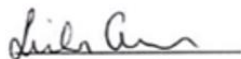
Candidates who hold a full medical card or who are covered for all services on a parent or guardian's full medical card are not liable for examination fees. **Medical cards will be accepted only if valid on or between January 1st 2020 and April 30th 2020. If you wish to apply for this exemption you must complete the** Medical Card Exemption on-line facility via the link above.


We assure you of the support of our school Senior Management team, Year Heads, Guidance Counsellors, SEN team and individual teachers for all of our students now and in the weeks ahead. As always, please be assured that we are working as hard as we can to ensure continuity of quality education and systems of support for our students.

Again, to all who are working on the front line, including members of our community of Abbey Community College, we want to say thank you for all that you are doing.

Kind regards,

  
Michelle Jefford

  
Linda Cummins

  
Laura Fitzpatrick

  
Colm Rice