



# St. Malachy's College

36 Antrim Road, Belfast BT15 2AE



7 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will now be aware Year 12 students will not be returning to the College on Monday 11 January as we had previously planned. At the time of writing it is expected that remote learning will commence on this date and continue until the February half-term break.

With the cancellation of GCSE examinations this winter and summer, it is very likely that the Mock examinations that had been scheduled for this month will become a significant factor in determining GCSE grades. These examinations will be rescheduled for later this term and subject teachers will be remotely setting assignments and revision tasks to help students prepare successfully for them. Therefore, it is extremely important that all students continue to work with their subject teachers and participate fully in online learning. Teachers will be teaching using the online platforms of Google Classroom and if using live content, Google Meet. Assignments will be set by teachers and deadline dates must be adhered to. Full engagement is essential and this will be monitored by subject departments and the pastoral team. Registration will be in place from 8.30 -10.00am each morning, whereby students indicate their engagement for the day ahead. Further details regarding remote learning protocol will be shared tomorrow by Mrs Graham (Vice Principal Curriculum).

As we are all aware, this has been a difficult year for our College family and many of our boys have experienced significant trauma. If you feel your son is in the vulnerable category as outlined in the correspondence of 4<sup>th</sup> January and needs additional support, please contact Mrs McCusker (dmccusker152@c2ken.net) to discuss what arrangements can be made.

We appreciate this is a challenging period of time for our students and while I have stated the importance of students approaching each day in an organised manner, it is equally important to balance schoolwork with exercise and other activities maintaining a healthy balance at all times.

As the situation becomes clearer regarding the awarding of GCSE grades, we will of course contact you with the relevant information. In the meantime, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing the students back with us in the not so distant future.

Yours sincerely

Mr F Toner  
Head of KS4