



27th March 2020

Dear Parent /Guardian,

Thank you for your messages of support which are greatly appreciated. The staff are working hard to keep your daughter engaged in learning and hopefully, in the process, supporting her Health and Wellbeing. It is important that the students keep everything in balance so eating, exercise and good sleeping patterns should also be maintained.

The first full week may not have been ideal for many girls who have other duties at home perhaps caring for younger children or elderly relatives or helping with normal household tasks. If this is the case, they should explain that to their teachers who will understand. The good thing about remote learning is that students can log on and catch up at a time which suits them best.

The younger students may find working on their own at home very different to the buzz of the classroom and indeed could be overwhelmed with the number of tasks they are set to do. If your daughter is feeling that way encourage her to tell her teachers and adjustments can be made.

Some of the girls may not see the purpose of continuing with school work and have lost motivation now that the examinations have been cancelled. Please encourage them to keep going as they are building knowledge for the next stage of learning.

Many of the examination students are worrying about how the grades are going to be worked out, especially if their mock results were not their best and they fear those results will be used. The awarding bodies have not finalised options for the awarding of grades for GCSE and GCE qualifications. CEA have issued a letter today which I have posted on our website for your reference. It does state that learners should still be working towards completing their programmes of study and further updates will be provided as soon as possible.

Our daily life patterns have become very different and I understand the pressures facing parents. However, reminding ourselves that nothing could be more difficult than the challenge for frontline staff and the NHS, helps to keep everything in perspective. It is rewarding to see our past pupils lead calls for social distancing, safe hygiene practices and resources.

If parents /guardians need any further advice, please contact us at [info@loretogs.omagh.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@loretogs.omagh.ni.sch.uk). You can also follow us on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and the school's website where the posts will keep you updated with all that is happening.

We will continue to pray for each other.

Yours sincerely,  
**Grainne T O'Hanlon**  
Principal