



30 June 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we approach the close of the academic year 2021-22, we take this opportunity to congratulate our students, of whom we are very proud, and we commend them for their effort, engagement, enthusiasm, participation, resilience and progression. We fully appreciate the support of parents and guardians throughout the past year and look forward to our continued partnership in nurturing our students. This year, we celebrated the bi-centenary of Loreto Education in Ireland led by Mother Teresa Frances Ball in continuing the legacy of our foundress, Mary Ward.

The staff and I are looking forward to a new beginning in August / September 2022 and to welcoming our students on their return to school.

Our commitment to "Stay Safe, Be Responsible" will remain a focus. While we are delighted to have returned to full curricular provision this year, we will continue to adhere to and promote good hand and respiratory hygiene and to follow health and safety guidance.

Please note that dark brown tights are a compulsory part of uniform from September 2022.

See attached provisional arrangements for school opening in September 2022. These are subject to change and you will be notified of any amendments in advance of school re-opening.

If you have any further queries please ring the school office or email info@loretogs.omagh.ni.sch.uk

In recent days we bade farewell to longstanding members of staff who are retiring: Dr Boyle, Head of Spanish and Mrs McCann, Head of Physical Education. We announce the upcoming retirement on 31st August 2022 of our highly esteemed and much loved Vice-Principal of 21 years and Teacher of Religion for 35 years, Mrs Turbitt. We acknowledge their outstanding service to Loreto Grammar School, Omagh and wish them much happiness on their future paths.

Once again thank you for your support during the past year. We will continue to pray for, and hold dear in our thoughts, those who have experienced bereavement or have concerns about illness or vulnerability within their family or friendship circles.

I wish you, the students and your families health, happiness and joy over the holidays and until we meet again: "Go gcoinní Dia i mbos a láimhe sibh" - *May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Susan Cullinan (Principal)

Provisional Arrangements for School Opening September 2022-subject to change

Senior Leadership Training	Friday 26 th August 2022
Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11	Thursday 1 st September 2022
Year 13 and Year 14	Friday 2 nd September 2022
Year 8 and Year 12	Monday 5 th September 2022
All Students in attendance	Tuesday 6 th September 2022

General Information

- The school gates open at 8:15am.
- Pupils must use the pedestrian crossing controlled by the traffic lights at the James Street entrance.
- Parents are asked to drop the pupils off at the school gates unless the pupil requires disability access.
- Pupils enter and exit school via James Street entrance (at office) or via Main Foyer (at canteen)
- The school day begins with Registration every morning at 9:05am.
- Once in school, students should remain in school. Emergency appointments only. Parents should contact the school office in advance re: appointments or to collect their daughter in an emergency.
- All necessary communications between home and school should be made through the school office.
- Visitors to the school will be by appointment only.

Administration Procedures on the First Day of Return

- Issue of: Timetable, Stationery, Bus Passes, and the Student Planners. (Lost Student Planners can be replaced at a cost of £5.00).
- Biometric registration for use of Canteen. Registration for **PAY 360** will take place in August and parents will be able to register to pay online.
- The **Sims Parent App** will be our main communication tool.

Voluntary Contributions

We appeal to you for your support in making the voluntary contribution towards the range and quality of education and extra-curricular services provided by Loreto Grammar School from which all pupils can benefit. For your convenience, direct debit or online payment via **PAY 360** options available.

1 pupil - £70.00 / 2 pupils - £120.00 / 3 or more pupils - £150.00

If you have already made the contribution, we thank you sincerely for your support.

School Uniform - Pupils are expected to wear their full school uniform neatly, with dignity and pride.

Blazers are compulsory.

Skirts must be knee length.

Dark brown tights are compulsory.

Shoes must be plain **dark** brown and must **not be canvas**.

Rainbow coloured hair, nail varnish and make-up are not permitted.

Facial piercings are not to be worn.

School scarf only.

The clip-on tie is available for all year groups.

Monitoring of Uniform will continue throughout the year.

Parents / Guardians are asked for full support, ensuring their daughter adheres strictly to the uniform regulations.

Mobile Phones

Pupils' mobile phones are to remain switched off during the school day unless directed by a teacher for use in a curriculum subject area under the Bring Your Own Device to School Policy.

Mobile phones in use, other than under supervised class conditions and directed by staff, will be **confiscated and held in school until collected by Parent / Guardian**.

There will be no facility to charge pupils' mobile phones in school.

Healthy Lifestyle

Pupils should not bring energy drinks such as Boost, BPM, Red Bull etc. to school because of the high caffeine content.

Parents may find the following information useful: <http://www.caffeinformer.com/top-10-energy-drink-dangers>.