



St. Louis Grammar School

Principal Mr Sean Rafferty B.Ed, M.Ed, PQH (NI)

Cullybackey Road
BALLYMENA
BT43 5DW

January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

We hope you and your family have had a safe Christmas break.

As you will be aware, the Education Minister has issued new guidance regarding the education restart for post-primary schools. For clarification, all students in **Year 8 – 14 should remain at home up until and including 19th February 2021 (as present guidance stands)**, returning after mid-term on Monday 22nd February 2021.

All students will be taught via online platforms from Monday 11th January 2021. Students should follow their normal timetable from home up until and including Friday 12th February 2021 (mid-term holiday Monday 15th – Friday 19th February). Students should be logged on to online platforms where staff will teach them remotely, set regular deadlines and monitor work. A student online learning guide and student timetables will be posted in hard copy towards the end of this week for information purposes during this remote learning series.

Communication with teachers will be online between 9am – 3.30pm Monday – Friday. However, if students require pastoral support out of these hours we would encourage them to use our 'Worry Box' on the school website <http://www.stlouisgrammar.com/contact-us/worry-box/>

Please ensure that students log in to their C2k accounts before Monday in case passwords have expired etc. Students can change their expired passwords at the following link: <https://services.c2kni.net/ums/> Once changed, students will also have to update their password on Google Classroom, MS Teams app etc. To do this they must use their c2k email eg. slgstudent123@c2ken.net followed by their new password.

All GCSE January series and GCSE AS/A2 Summer series examinations have been cancelled. At present, we do not know the details of how students will be assessed and once we have this information we will share with students. It is likely that predicted grades will require evidence based materials so it is important that all examination classes complete tasks, which will be set in the next few weeks, to a high standard.

We are aware that students may require access to their lockers to ensure they have all materials to support remote learning. Students may access lockers on Thursday 7th/Friday 8th January (9.30am – 4.30pm). Please report to Reception on arrival.

Schools are required to accommodate the children of key workers/vulnerable children during this period, so if your family is in either of these categories please email the school at mail@stlouisgrammar.com by 3.30pm on Friday 8th January and we can make necessary arrangements for supervision. Please see following link for clarification of key workers: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/news/weir-announces-changes-schools-reopening-arrangements>
The following link will clarify vulnerable children: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/news/new-vulnerable-children-guidance-published-schools-and-parents>

Please note that these students will not be taught during this time but will be facilitated during the school day in a supervised capacity.

Thank you for your continued patience in this matter as we deal with an evolving situation. Our plans outlined above will be subject to review and DE guidance.

Best wishes for a safe 2021.

Yours faithfully

Mr S. Rafferty, Principal

