



Pobalscoil Sráid a'Mhuilinn

MILLSTREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Coomlogane, Millstreet Town, Co. Cork P51 CA34

Promoting all aspects of the growth and development of each student in a caring environment

8^ú Eanáir 2021

A Dhaltaí agus a Thuismitheoirí / Chaomhnóirí, a chairde,

Athbhliain Fé Mhaise Dhaoibh go léir. Tá súil agam go bhfuil gach éinne agaibh go maith agus gur thógabhair briseadh le linn na Nollag. Happy New Year to you all. I hope that you are all well and that you enjoyed the Christmas break.

Thank you for engaging with us at our online meeting earlier today. It is an unfortunate reality that we now find ourselves in. We would all like to be back in MCS doing what we do best but we must wait and adhere to government advice and direction.

As a school, we have been actively planning to continue teaching and learning activities online as best we can since we returned to school in September. Our approach to online learning is one that we have developed through consultation during the first lockdown and it has served us well, as I outlined to you earlier. We are using the existing timetable to provide a framework for this initiative.

Beginning on Monday next, the following procedure will be in place for the foreseeable future:

- All classes will receive direct teacher engagement 3-5 times a day, where possible. These days and times are in accordance with the existing timetable and are set out in the table below:

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.00	WELLBEING P.E.	WELLBEING CSPE	IRISH		BUSINESS STUDIES (Mr. O'Neill) ENGINEERING HOME ECONOMICS
9.40				R.E.	
10.20					
11.20	SCIENCE		ENGLISH	MATHS	
12.00		MATHS			
12.40					
1.20		HISTORY		WOODWORK GRAPHICS VISUAL ART BUSINESS STUDIES (Ms. McAuliffe)	GEOGRPAHY
2.00					
2.40	IRISH			TUTORIAL	FRENCH GERMAN
3.20					



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- The direct teacher engagement will be in the form of live online classes with pre-recorded voice memos, powerpoint videos with voiceover or combinations of these and other methods. The teachers will be online and available for direct questions from students at these times.
- The live online classes will take place on Microsoft Teams. Classwork and homework will also be posted to this platform. All our students have access to MS Teams. Please contact the school office if there is any difficulty with accessing Office 365.
- The direct interaction/presentation by teachers will last in the region of 30 minutes with ample time afterwards for student engagement and questions. We have tried our best to space the classes over the week to reduce screen fatigue.
- Students are expected to be online for these classes with their video feeds turned on at all times. Attendance will be taken for each online class in the usual manner.
- Students should be dressed appropriately and seating in an appropriate area to access online classes and other material.
- Teachers will be uploading work to be completed between their online classes and will continue to be available during the day.
- All students are asked to keep up to date with your work, to make yourselves available for your online classes as detailed above and to ensure that you take regular breaks during the day.

We will evaluate this approach over the next two weeks.

Our enforced isolation has been more difficult for some members of our community than others. If you wish to speak with someone at this time, the members of the school Aoireacht (Pastoral Care) Team (myself, Mrs Moynihan, Ms O'Leary (Careers), Ms O'Leary (SEN), Mr Magee) are available to you. You may also contact the following organisations:

www.mymind.org

www.turn2me.ie

www.jigsawonline.ie

Barnados Parent Support Line 1800 910 123

Thank you all for your positive engagement with your school at this time.

Stay enthusiastic, stay well, stay connected, keep the fitness levels up and stay safe. We will be in touch again soon.

Is mise le meas,

Pól Ó Síodhcháin
Principal