



### Contingencies for Covid-19 School Closure from 6pm 12th March until 29th March.

Subsequent to the Taoiseach’s announcement that all schools are to close until 29th March, we are informing parents that there will be **NO ACCESS** to Davitt College during this period.

While we all try to navigate as best we can in these unprecedented times the following contingencies have been put in place to support the student’s education.

1. All students should have access to their email addresses and will be able to communicate with their teachers during normal school hours.
2. If students cannot access their email account, their password can be reset by clicking on the link on [www.office.com](http://www.office.com). If there are any issues regarding this, please direct queries through [davittcollege@msletb.ie](mailto:davittcollege@msletb.ie)
3. Teachers will be using apps available within **Office365** with their classes and work for students will be shared on these platforms also. This will happen in line with the class timetables and students are advised to plan their work in line with their school timetable each day.
4. We are asking parents, in so much as you can, to monitor that, the work assigned by teachers is being completed by the students.
5. Only the student’s **school email account (STUDENTNAME@davittcollege.com) will be responded to by teachers**. Student personal email addresses won’t be responded to. If there’s a problem with this, please refer to point 2 above.
6. Students have been asked to bring home all of their books from their lockers.
7. All students are to refrain from all school-related activities that require them to leave their homes. i.e. Work Experience. Please contact your employer to inform them of this.
8. The school text messaging service will be used to keep parents up to date. Updates will also be published on the Davitt College Facebook page.

**The State Examinations Commission (SEC)** will circulate guidance on contingency arrangements if they are required.

- The school will communicate any such arrangements through normal channels such as SMS, student emails, VShare, and social media.
- If the practical’s and orals are postponed for our students, it is essential to note they will be delayed for all students across the country. Please check for accurate updates on the SEC website, [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie).
- In the interim, Leaving Cert students must prepare for the orals/practical’s as if they are going to proceed as planned.
- Other online supports available:
  - [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)
  - <https://irevise.com/ie> (Additional notes and tutorials)
  - [www.studyflix.ie](http://www.studyflix.ie) (Exam builders)
  - [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie) (Past exam papers and marking schemes)
  - [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
  - <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>
  - [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie) – (Education related news)

#### **Wellbeing**

- We would encourage you to stay in contact with your friends. Peer learning is one of the most effective methods to support curriculum engagement. Use technology **sensibly** to connect and learn together.
- Breaks, exercise and healthy diets are crucial to staying healthy.

#### **All years – General study guidance**

Timetable subject	Learning Activity	Preparing for assessment	Assessment at the end of the week
History – Pick a topic in your textbook	Make notes/mindmaps/flashcards on the topic under review	Use irevise/studyflix to identify questions from past papers and prepare answers and notes	Use studyflix to create exam questions to test themselves.

Other online supports are available here:

- <https://www.scoilnet.ie/scoilnet/news/article/news/detail/News/des-announcement-and-scoilnet-supports/>

This is an unprecedented situation, and the school community is conscious that in these difficult times, we will come together to find solutions. We always work in the best interest of our students. It is an unusual time for us all, and we need to work together to delay and limit the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. We encourage parents to emphasise the importance of social distancing to all in their care, so we as a nation can protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

I also want to acknowledge that many of our students might find the uncertainty of the forthcoming weeks quite unsettling. I want to take this opportunity to reassure parents and students alike that the SEC and DoES have always made decisions which are student-centred and mindful of the immediate environment. We have no control over what decisions the state agencies make; we do, however, have control over what actions we can take. So please remain focused on your study schedules and your preparations for the state examinations.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff for their assistance and proactive actions to support your daughter(s) and son(s). The staff and your daughter(s)/son(s) are a credit to our school community.

If you wish to contact me, I am available at [davittcollege@msletb.ie](mailto:davittcollege@msletb.ie). **Please note that the school phone number is changed to 086-4183294 for the foreseeable future as we are now working remotely.** We will make every effort to respond to your query promptly and support you in any way we can.

Yours sincerely,

*Bernadette Rowland* (Principal)