



IRVINE ROYAL ACADEMY

Ambition • Respect • Responsibility

Head Teacher: Mrs. L. Sloan

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LS/IH

07 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Can I firstly start off by wishing you a Happy New Year – I am hopeful that 2021 will bring better times for us all.

You will be fully aware that until **01.02.21**, the school building is only open for emergency childcare. My staff are currently working on a rota system in order to supervise and support this need.

Our two week **Senior Phase Assessment Programme** will take place the week after we return to school – we are hoping that this will be the week beginning **8.2.21**.

From **11.01.21**, all pupils should return to **online learning**. Pupils who are in school for childcare will also engage in **online learning** until the school opens its doors again for face to face learning and teaching.

Google Classroom will be the main platform that we will be using for **online learning**. Pupils were previously issued with codes for each of their classes and in turn, invited by their class teacher to accept entry to the class – most pupils have now done this. Can I please ask for your support in encouraging your son/daughter to do this, if they have not already done so? As has always been the case, they must access their **Google Classrooms** via their **Glow** accounts.

I should make you aware that **online learning** will take place in a **variety** of forms (the research deems this to be the most effective approach): live lessons, pre-recorded lessons/videos, powerpoints, voice-over powerpoints, You-Tube uploads... Teachers will set appropriate tasks/activities and a clear deadline for completion – feedback will be provided thereafter.

In addition, our January – April **Course Outlines** for all subjects/year groups/levels will be available to view on our **School Website** – the link will also be sent to you via **Groupcall** – a collated version of all **Google Classroom** codes will also be issued – this is in case any pupil has forgotten/misplaced their code(s).

We have set up an **Online Engagement Tracker** and this will be looked at regularly on a subject by subject basis – contact will be made with home to offer support for any pupil who is struggling to engage.

As it stands, given the hard work from our staff, the majority of pupils have access to IT – paper resources will be collated and distributed to those young people for whom we are still awaiting a device.

Can I urge you to follow us on our school **Twitter** page: @IrvineRoyalAcad and to familiarise yourself with our **Website**: irvineroyal.co.uk, where you will find a number of videos to support with matters pertaining to **online learning**.



@irvineroyalacad

www.irvineroyal.co.uk

- Irvine Royal Academy Believes in Better -



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Inevitably, there will be challenges with IT over the next period and I would ask that any IT queries are emailed to: IRA_IT_Queries@glow.sch.uk. Our IT expert will then be on hand to support you with any issues. In addition, our school office will be manned at all times should you have any further queries.

I thank you in anticipation for your patience and support during this challenging time.

Our teachers are working hard to plan for next week and are fully committed to giving our young people the best experience possible.

I will be in touch again next week to gather some feedback on how the new arrangement is working – I value suggestions on how we can continually make things better.

Yours sincerely,

Lizzie Sloan

Head Teacher



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