Dear Fifth Year students, parents and guardians,

We hope you are all well and safe at home during this difficult and unprecedented time. We are writing to you with some updates on your Career Guidance programme and some information which may be helpful for you at this time. We are starting our Career Guidance programme for Fifth Years next **Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup>** with a talk and interactive ICT session on online resources from 2pm to 3.20. This will be followed by a talk from Kay Mitchell from The Admission's Team in Maynooth University on Planning for Career Choice and making the most out of Fifth Year on **Friday March 12<sup>th</sup>** from 11am to 11.40pm. All of this can be accessed from your Fifth Year Team and we would both encourage and welcome parents/ guardians to attend the talk on Friday if they wish to as this will be very helpful in terms of what students should be doing at the moment to maximise their potential.

These sessions will be followed up in the last term with further classes and talks including an alternative to DAT Tests (Aptitude tests our Fifth Year students sit each year) which cannot go ahead due to our current Public Health regulations for Health and Safety. We are preparing for both the possibility of online and in school delivery and you will be notified of all classes etc. in advance through your Team. We will also be setting you up with your Career's Portal/ Reach account and book which you will use throughout Sixth Year and showing you how to access the many free online career events taking place in the coming months in all of the Universities, Institutes of Technology and Colleges which we strongly recommend you attend as part of your research for what you would like to do after the Leaving Certificate. These can all be viewed on the Guidance and Counselling section on our school website which is updated daily.

Career Guidance is an important and compulsory subject and students are expected to attend all online classes and talks as they do in school. We look forward to working with you all over the coming months, in the meantime we hope you stay safe and well.

Thank you for your continued support,

Yours faithfully,

Mr Kerins Ms M. Harris Ms D. Dolan

Deputy Principal Guidance Counsellor Guidance Counsellor