



Salesian College

“We care, develop, believe – together we achieve”

6th Year Graduation 21st May 2021

2.30pm

13th May 2021

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I write in relation to your son’s 6th year graduation which we will hold on Friday 21st May at 2.30pm. We have asked our young gentlemen to dress formally for this occasion. Students who are attending classes for their Leaving Certificate subjects that day will be allowed to leave at 11.40am and go home to get ready.

Students are asked to be seated no later than 2.25pm. We look forward to celebrating all their memories and successes as students of Salesian College.

It has been brought to our attention that students are organising their own celebrations afterwards in Celbridge. Whilst we normally would not have any issue with students celebrating this important event, as a school we must urge caution and we strongly advise students not to gather in large groups, not to go drinking outside anywhere and not to congregate in any groups. We have contacted the local hostelries and asked them for their cooperation with this. We also ask that there are no house parties or garden parties organised.

We do not want to put a dampener on your son’s formal leaving event however this is for their own safety and to ensure their Leaving Certificate will not be compromised.

If your son tests positive before the Leaving Certificate exams it will be your responsibility to contact the State Examination Commission about this. The school cannot make any alternative arrangements. Private exam rooms will not be provided. There is no re-sit of exams this year as students will be awarded Accredited Grades. Furthermore, if a student is named as a close contact, they will not be able to sit the exams even if they do not have Covid-19 they will have to self-isolate.

We strongly advise all our very capable and mature 6th years to be patient and wait for their celebrations. This is a unique situation. We understand our students have missed out on so much over the last year – missing out on one more night will not be too much of a sacrifice.

I ask all students and parents is a “night out” where they could catch Covid-19 or be named as a close contact worth missing the Leaving Certificate for?

Our students have worked hard and deserve every opportunity to gain their passport - a successful Leaving Certificate - to allow them to go on to college, university, apprenticeship, whatever.

This is a hard-hitting message but one that has to be communicated clearly and unambiguously for all our 6th years.

Please wait until after the Leaving Certificate exams to celebrate your time in Salesian College.

There cannot be any pressure put on students to go out and party after the graduation. I expect every student’s decision not to go out partying to be respected.

We will celebrate your son's time here in Salesian College on Friday 21st and we want to see all our wonderful students who have signed up for the written exams arrive to the school in June healthy, calm and prepared to do their very best.

We have always had great support from you our parents and we ask you to seriously discuss this with your son before Friday 21st May.

Arrangements for Monday 17th to Friday 21st May

6th year students are allowed to come to school for the subjects they wish to sit in the Leaving Certificate in June. If they are sitting ALL subjects, they must follow their complete timetable including all non-examinable subjects. We do not want students gathering in large groups in Applegreen or in other locations off the school grounds. While in school, 6th year students must be in class and will not be allowed to hang around the school waiting for their next class they wish to attend.

It is the responsibility of the student to follow all school rules during this week and we ask all parents and guardians to be aware of their son's plans for this week. We cannot be responsible for students who are not in school this week. We are allowing our students the choice to decide which subjects they wish to attend for and we expect full cooperation.

We have only a few weeks left, and we trust all our students will remain strong and resilient and enjoy their last few weeks with their hopefully lifelong friends.

Is mise, le meas,

Ms. B Kearns, Principal