



Teaching and Learning

27-3-20

Dear All

Distance learning comprises of more than learning through technology and includes study, reading, researching and keeping up with music, drama and physical activity. Differences in the nature of each subject will influence the type of activities that can be delivered in a virtual world. Each teacher will decide on the method of communication that they will use: email, Google Classroom or Zoom, for example.

Guidelines for students

1. Try to adhere to the times you are used to at school.
2. Allocate your subjects into 40 minute slots like class.
3. Take 5 minute breaks between subjects.
4. Check your email and Google Classroom twice a day.
5. Try to keep up with study and homework that may be assigned.
6. Conduct yourself responsibly online with teachers and fellow students (classroom rules still apply to online lessons).
7. Dress appropriately and refrain from eating as you would in class.
8. Set aside some time for reflection at the end of each day.
9. You're going to need self-motivation, self-discipline and focus. Getting started is the hardest part so start with a subject you enjoy and work from there.
10. Communication is key – if you cannot make a class or have problems accessing work please let the teacher know.

Guidelines for parents

1. You may wish to look at and discuss the communication your son/daughter is receiving from their teachers.
2. Please ensure your son/daughter is checking their school emails twice a day and has accepted any google classroom invitations.
3. Ensure your son/daughter is familiar with managing their inbox.
4. Support your son/daughter's learning by finding an appropriate place for them to work and checking that set work is completed by the end of the day.
5. Support your son/daughter to establish a routine but be careful not to over-supervise.
6. Encourage exercise and healthy eating.
7. Set clear rules about social media interaction.
8. How to Guide for using [Google Classroom](#)
9. The [DES Guide to Supporting Young People](#) while schools are closed

This is a challenging time for students with SEN as they function best with structure. Designing a [timetable](#) like this, for study/leisure, is advised. If you are not already in contact with Learning Support, please email [Siobhán Daly](#) first. We are here to offer additional support during these unforeseen circumstances.

The [NCSE](#) has many resources for parents of SEN students, which include; student self-regulation, parental booklet on sensory processing, screen-time advice for parents, reading comprehension strategies.

Online learning is new to students, and also new to the staff. We are all learning together so we are grateful to you for your understanding, as we navigate through it, finding the best way to support you, remotely.