



CASTLEDERGH HIGH SCHOOL

16 Castlegore Road, Castlederg, Co Tyrone, BT81 7RU

Principal: Mrs Susan J Wilson, BA (Hons), PGCE, PQH (NI)

Vice Principal: Mrs Sandra Cashel, MA, MEd, BA (Hons), PG Dip, PGCE



10 March 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils of Year's 12, 13 and 14,

We are very much looking forward to having you all back in school on Monday 22nd March. Can I commend you all on the way you have handled the lockdown – you have all worked tremendously hard at home, absolutely outstanding work has been completed and pupils have made quite amazing progress even though they have been learning remotely.

No doubt many of you are a little apprehensive about returning and what will be expected of you when you return. Can I reassure you that the week in school before Easter will be one of gently acclimatising back into school and your teachers will be doing everything they can to reassure you and help you. As I am sure many of you are aware, in order for teachers to allocate you a Centre Determined Grade, they require evidence to prove you are working at a certain grade. Much of what you have already achieved will go towards this but to ensure you get a chance to achieve the highest outcome possible, there will be a number of class tests/ assessments that will be given to you in late April and May. These are not exams and your teachers will ensure that you are well prepared and ready to sit the assessments.

It is really important that you do not worry about these assessments, as there will be ample time to get ready, to ask questions before any of these happen and it may well be that you are already well prepared, as there will be nothing assessed that you have not already been taught. If you have struggled a little or indeed a lot in the lockdown, please do not worry as there is sufficient time to show what you have learned and your teachers will guide you through everything when you return. If you do need additional support do not hesitate to ask.

Pupils will come to school in their full school uniform and as I am sure you are aware, pupils are required to wear face coverings at all times, in the corridor and in class. (Pupils must bring a parental letter to explain if they cannot wear one for medical or other reasons). Can I just remind all pupils that they must wash their hands on arrival to school and to use the sanitiser on entrance to every classroom.

As there are a reduced number of pupils in the school and all are wearing face coverings, we will not be using the one- way system for the week before Easter. The canteen will be open for lunch and I will clarify arrangements for break nearer the time. Year 13 and 14 will be permitted to leave the building for lunch if they so wish, and the same system will apply as previously for 6th form – if they do not have timetabled class they may sign out and go home.

Once again, thank you all for your tremendous efforts in the lockdown. It has been a rollercoaster year for all our year 12,13 and 14 pupils, but there is most definitely light at the end of the tunnel. We really look forward to having our pupils back in school so that we can help you to achieve the results you all deserve.

Your sincerely

S J Wilson

Principal