



## Form 6 Return to School LC2021 Updates 1-3-21

### **Timetable**

The remote teaching timetable will remain in place each morning until all classes return to in-school learning after the Easter break. Form 6 classes will move to 35 minutes allowing 10 minutes for movement and air breaks.

Afternoon classes are 1 hour in duration and will be used for both curriculum coverage and timed-assessments, as set out by each department.

Students are required to wear full school uniform. Please do adhere to this to avoid any needless confrontations.

Any boarding student with a free period in their timetable must go to the dining hall for supervised study. This is not open to discussion, as every decision has been made with the health and safety of each student in mind. Day students will be in the WWH for these supervised periods.

### **Mock Exams**

Mock exams will begin on Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and evening (1pm & approx. 4 or 4.30pm). As data from mock exams is not permitted to be used for teacher's estimated marks, we have taken the decision to host optional mock exams outside class time, on Wednesdays and all day Saturday. These supervised exams allow students to practise timings of papers in exam conditions, and receive feedback on their papers.

In scheduling the timetable we have endeavoured to arrange the subject papers in a way to minimize students taking two exams on Wednesday afternoon and evening. We will publish the timetable early this week along with a google form. You must fill out the google form so we can allocate each exam to you.

We are aware that this is a stressful time for you all, so sitting the mock exams under exam conditions is optional. However, we have ordered mock papers for all subjects and all students, so if you prefer, you can sit the exam unsupervised, on your own time, once the other students have completed theirs. These papers will be handed into a central location for marking.

### **Oral exams**

Oral exams and Music practical's are to be held during the period of March 26<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>. More details will follow once we have had the chance to discuss the scheduling of that, with input from staff and students. Students have to commit to the sitting of orals once the SEC portal opens on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Accredited grades and written exams**

Students will be required to register on the SEC's portal during the week of March 8<sup>th</sup> in order to choose their subjects and level. At time of registration, you will also opt to sit examinations and/or receive accredited grades. The portal will remain open for a period of one week. Schools will then receive the information from the portal. The portal will re-open in May, to allow students to review their choices.



THE  
KING'S  
HOSPITAL  
SCHOOL

### Form 6 Return to School LC2021 Updates 1-3-21

If you have **not** sat an oral exam in Irish or your 2<sup>nd</sup> language, or taken your musical practical, at Easter, you can still sit the exam in June, but will lose out on those marks in the final exam grade.

**We as a school, will be advising students to opt for both accredited grades and to sit the examinations in June. We encourage all students to take the orals and practicals at Easter, in order to receive the maximum grade you can, in the written exam.**

Written exams are due to commence on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Our reasoning to go for both options, is to optimise your chances of obtaining the best results for you, as it is unknown how the standardisation process will affect the estimated grade submitted by the school.

Students should not approach teachers about their estimated mark. The document from the DES clearly states that students will not be informed by teachers or the school of their estimated mark.

Estimated marks are based on the two years of the Senior Cycle, including the supervised timed-assessment, scheduled to take place over the next few months. These timed-assessments should be no longer than one hour in duration, and a maximum of three assessments per subject may be administered between now and May 14<sup>th</sup>. Your subject teachers will discuss this more with you during class this week.

Mr UaBruadair, the house teams, guidance team, your teachers and myself, are here to help answer your questions as best we can. However, we take our information directly from the Department of Education and Skills, so will not speculate every time there is a news alert from the media. This is not fair to you or the teachers and only creates anxiety and frustration, so please be patient while we await confirmations or updates on practicals and project work.

Even though your senior cycle experience is not what you would have expected it to be, I am very confident that your year group can get through the next few months; with confidence in your abilities; the hard work you and your teachers have put in; and determination to not allow this pandemic negatively affect the outcome of your 6 years in secondary school. We are all here to support you in any way we can.

Siobhán Daly

Deputy Head Academics

[academics@thekingshospital.ie](mailto:academics@thekingshospital.ie)