

**Coláiste Mhuire,
Bóthar Naomh Muire,
Gaillimh,
H91 H7F8.**

**St. Mary's College,
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12th May 2020.

Dear Parents /Guardians,

I hope that you and your families are keeping safe during these extremely difficult times for all. I would like to express my gratitude to you the parents/guardians for keeping your son engaged in his education in conjunction with the staff here in St. Mary's College since the lockdown began on March 13th. There has been a lot of uncertainty and a period of anxiousness for our students over these last few months. This is particularly the case for our Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate students.

By now you will all know that there will not be a Junior Certificate exam for your son this year. This is unfortunate, but at the present moment this is also unavoidable. I feel a great sense of disappointment for your son as he prepared for his state exam in June. The country, and indeed the world, has been turned upside down for so many people and education has severely felt the brunt of Covid 19 also.

We are working hard in relation to the division of classes for your son as he continues on to TY or 5th year in the next academic year. Usually the Junior Cert is a great indicator as to subject level for senior cycle, but students will be placed into levels based on very strict criteria laid down by each department.

The teaching staff would normally be in the depths of revision, and final preparation for the state exam and they too have had to adjust their teaching methodologies, something they have done with complete professionalism and admirable qualities. In a short space of time each department has been working diligently to come up with a transparent, fair, equitable and balanced approach to grading your son for his 3rd year report. I attach a table that gives you a clear picture of how each department has come up with their own marking scheme. This does not replace the State Junior Cert Exam but will give students a fair result of their Junior Cert years here in St. Mary's.

My hope is that I get the opportunity to hold an evening at some stage to present students with a certificate from the school in relation to their Junior Certificate years here in St. Mary's. Of course I cannot put a date on this under the present restrictions but hopefully we will return to some form of normality in the near future.

I want to take the opportunity to thank your son for their level of engagement over their 3 years here and in particular in the last few months of 3rd year. The school is a very different place without the students and staff that make it what it is and I for one look forward to welcoming your son back as soon as it is safe to do so.

Finally, I want to take the opportunity to wish you all good health and stay safe.

Yours in education,

Éamonn Veale.

Principal.



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Subject	Decision
English	Combination of CBA 2 result, Mock result, weighted average.
Irish	Weighted average. 1 st and 2 nd year summer exams weight 20%, CBA 1 20%, CBA 2 20%, Mock Exam 40%.
Maths	Weighted Average.
Business	Average of 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd year exams plus CBA results
Science	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd year formal Assessments, mock result, class participation, CBA 1 and participation since March 13 th .
French	Average from formal results from 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd year 40%, CBA 20%, mock 20%, End of year assessment/In class participation, and homework 20%.
German	1/3 test averages (October and Christmas), 1/3 from class tests (vocab, grammar, and reading comprehensions) and 1/3 from Mock Exam.
T.G.	Combination of all of their TG results since coming in in 1 st year. Along with work completed over the 3 years.
Geography	Formal results from 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd year 50%, mock 30%, In class tests/class participation/ online participation 20%.
History	Weighted average from 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd year plus mock results.