

Dear Parents/Guardians and 6th year students,

I hope you are keeping well. At least we now have certainty over the Leaving Certificate. The decision to use estimated marks is historic and probably the best option under the present circumstances.

We are awaiting formal guidelines on the process of calculated grades from the DES and hopefully the school will receive these early next week.

At the moment teachers have been asked to gather any evidence they may use when estimating the marks. Examples of this are classwork, homework, class assessments, school examinations, mock exams and also course work. Teachers are asked to provide a fair, reasonable and carefully considered judgement of the most likely percentage mark that each students would have achieved if they had sat their examinations and completed coursework under normal circumstances. It is also understood that students improve their grade in the Leaving Certificate. If a student has approved reasonable accommodation, the teacher must base their estimate on the student's likely performance on the assumption that this accommodation would have been available.

The process will take a few weeks and again I ask you not to contact any teachers during this time.

Guidelines to calculated grades and a question and answer information page are on the DES website. www.education.ie <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2f07eb-leaving-cert-2020-information/>

Please take care of yourselves. At least the weather is good, and it is nice not to have to sit exams in good weather.

Kind regards

Padraig Nolan