Message to Parents

We are now one week into the extraordinary closure of our school. We hope this post finds our students and their parents/guardians well. As a school we have responded rapidly to this situation and we continue to build capacity in order to continue to fulfill our roles and responsibilities to our school community. Though our current understanding is that the school will reopen on 30th March, in reality we have no clarity regarding the duration of the school closure. However, we are working very hard to ensure that your child continues to receive a quality education. The School is planning for a possible, prolonged closure and the successful implementation of our plan is highly dependent on the support of our parents/guardians. We would like to draw your attention to the following points:

* Our teachers are doing tremendous work and are successfully managing to deliver quality learning experiences through the Microsoft Office 365 platform. Please make every effort to ensure that your child has access to a device which supports this platform.
* Though we will contact you if your child is not engaging with our teachers it would really help us if you check in with your child regularly to establish how well your child is engaging
* It would be beneficial for your child to establish a daily work pattern e.g. rising early and doing all assigned homework before lunchtime.
* We have an expectation that all students will keep up with the work provided and that students will submit homework as required by teachers. When the school reopens, our teachers will continue from where the last online class/task ended.
* If any parent/student is having difficulty working with the Office 365 platform please email us at [officeadmin@ailbes.com](mailto:officeadmin@ailbes.com) and we will assist you.
* For 6th year (LC & LCA) students, a report will be available on VSware every fortnight, commencing on Friday 27th March, which will give you an overview as to how your child is doing.
* This reporting on VSware will be rolled out to other year groups over the coming weeks.
* If you feel your child is not coping well with the current situation, is anxious, or simply needs to chat to one of our staff please email us at [officeadmin@ailbes.com](mailto:officeadmin@ailbes.com) and we will arrange this.
* Please insist that your child practises social distancing and maintains an active and healthy lifestyle. Posts on the St. Ailbe’s Facebook pages are really useful for this.

St. Ailbe’s parents have always been incredibly supportive of our school and with your continued support we are confident that the school community will weather the current situation and your child will continue to progress.

For your child’s wellbeing and sense of connectedness, it is vital that your child maintains daily contact with our teachers through the Office 365 platform.

Formal attendance at school has been suspended for now but **teaching and learning continues**!