



## ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### ST. IGNATIUS VIRTUAL SCHOOL – WEB-BASED LEARNING

Our school crest reads: 'INSTAURARE OMNIA IN CHRISTO' which translates as; 'To renew all things in Christ'

St. Pius X lived these words, leading him to renew the life and customs of the entire Catholic Church and safeguard Her.

The next six weeks will see us, the team of St. Ignatius, our students, our parents and our wider community, living out these words. At St. Ignatius, we will renew our teaching and learning to ensure that our students continue their educational journey, ensuring Christ is at the center of all that we do.

I am delighted to introduce you to St. Ignatius Virtual School, our web-based learning initiative.

The closure of our school from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of March until the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 which was announced on Friday because of the on-going and evolving Covid-19 situation and to ensure the safety of our students, parents, staff and wider community has presented us with a unique opportunity to demonstrate that teaching and learning can remain of the highest quality even in the face of extreme challenge.

Through St. Ignatius Virtual School we will ensure that learning will continue to take place, so that our students continue to make ongoing progress with their learning journey.

Our web-based learning will provide our students with new opportunities to learn. The continuation of learning is a critical message that we need to consistently share with our students.

Through distance learning we believe our students will become more resilient, independent and organised.

St. Ignatius Virtual School will follow a slightly different, a more bespoke program that the usual timetable experienced by our students during a regular school day. There will be variations dependent upon the student age, year group and curriculum requirements.

It is important that the continuity of learning is maintained. This continuity is vital in minimising disruption; however, web-based learning is different from students attending school face-to-face. The face-to-face classroom atmosphere is not easily replicated in an online learning environment. An online learning environment however offers new opportunities that do not exist in a physical classroom.

599 Walkers Road, P.O. Box 2638, Grand Cayman KY1-1102, CAYMAN ISLANDS.

Tel: (345) 949 9250

[general@st-ignatius.com](mailto:general@st-ignatius.com)

[accounts@st-ignatius.com](mailto:accounts@st-ignatius.com)

[www.st-ignatius.com](http://www.st-ignatius.com)



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Access to teaching videos and other learning materials along with regular communication will ensure that your child remains engaged and motivated. Each family at St. Ignatius Catholic School will have a different set of circumstances that may influence how your child engages with St. Ignatius Virtual School. We are confident that our modes of learning and careful selection of resources will ensure that your child's learning program is maintained.

We understand this approach to learning is new to many in our community and we understand the challenges that parents/carers will face over the coming weeks in terms of their own work as well as overseeing your child/ren's web-based learning.

Opportunities will be given fortnightly starting initially on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of March to give feedback to the Senior Leadership Team regarding web-based learning, so that we can ensure our students continue their learning journey but also that this is manageable for both students and parents during these extraordinary circumstances.

I strongly urge both you and your child to engage, collaborate, be creative, take risks, seek feedback and seek regular help to explore and enjoy this new and fun way of learning.

Our Head of Primary, James Hickey and Head of Secondary, Peter Embleton along with their management and teaching staff have provided Online Learning documents to give an overview of web-based learning and the expectations that guide this learning platform.

Alongside this letter, the following documentation has been provided to assist both parents and students as we begin web-based learning:

- Primary School Web-based Learning Guide
- Secondary School Web-based Learning Guide
- Learning from Home Guide 2020

### Technical Support

Should your child face any issues with their laptop they are first guided to complete the Technical Support form (link below) so that our Tech team can address any issues as promptly as possible.

[Technical Support](#)

Alternatively, if you are unable to access the Technical Support form, please email [mick.whyte@st-ignatius.com](mailto:mick.whyte@st-ignatius.com) and state the issue being experienced in the subject heading.

If you or your child are experiencing challenges with Seesaw (for Primary) or a subject specific website/app they must first contact the subject teacher regarding this.

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Whether you are part of our community as a parent or student, this documentation provides insights into how we ensure that, no matter what happens, St. Ignatius Catholic School provides an amazing environment where learning never stops.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Emily Alexander'. The signature is written in a cursive style with large, flowing loops.

Mrs Emily Alexander  
Head of School



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