

Presentation Secondary School, Wexford



Principal: William Ryan



Here in PSS Wexford we have devised a Remote Teaching timetable for students & staff that will work for the duration of the closure here in the school. All students & teachers will work from this timetable.

Teachers have been asked to be available at the allocated times and to assign students work for these allocated times. Likewise students are to be ready for these 1 hour slots for each subject.

The general feedback from staff, parents, & students has been very positive. I would like to thank the staff & students for the huge effort that is going into remote teaching & learning. Our job now will be to sustain that interest that the students have had in the initial days for what could be a number of weeks/months.

We are very lucky in PSS Wexford in that we are an iPad ready school and have been using E Learning & technology for a number of years here in the school. Every student has their own iPad & all have access to Office 365 and our teachers have been very busy preparing lessons and work for our students while at home. We are also very cognisant of the fact that Wifi and broadband access can be limited or non-existent in certain parts of the county. Each student would have Homework buddies which is a system that works in normal times in the school, and is a way for those who are having difficulty accessing emails to receive their assigned work. Staff & students are contacted each day by email and any further updates are communicated by email, twitter, facebook, instagram and our website page <https://www.preswex.ie/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Apart from Office 365 our teachers are using many exciting ways of teaching and for our students to learn during this time, some of the learning platforms that teachers are using include Microsoft teams, Edmodo/Seesaw/Schoology etc.

Many of our staff are finding it difficult to juggle remote teaching and also looking after their own children, so I would ask parents/guardians to be patient in these uncertain times. Also, staff are aware that many of our students are helping out at home, minding smaller siblings. These are not normal times.

We have also devised a resource pack for our teachers, students, and parents. We have introduced a "Remote Learning Report" on a weekly basis & includes the following:

- Engaged in Remote Learning - Yes
- Engaged in Remote Learning - Partially
- Engaged in Remote Learning - No
- Comment box
- Principals Comment for those who are disengaged

Some of the benefits include:

- Teacher and school can keep a record of who is engaged
- It would save sending a list of students not engaged to myself.
- Principals comment on it - for those who are completely disengaged or should I say shut off.
- Teacher and school can show Parents/Guardians of lack of engagement - post the Covid19 situation

We have also devised “Remote Learning Resource Packs” for Students, Teachers and Parents/Guardians see links below:

Students:

<https://www.preswex.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Students.Remote.Learning.Resources.pdf>

Parents/Guardians:

<https://www.preswex.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Parents.Remote.Learning.Resources.pdf>

Teachers:

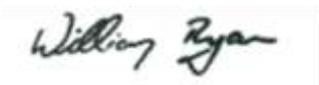
<https://www.preswex.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Teachers.Remote.Learning.Resources.pdf>

During this situation for all students out there I would advise the following:

Set yourself a normal timetable and routine everyday:

- Get up at the same time as you would for school
- Have a good breakfast
- Be ready each day for whatever subjects are timetabled for that day – have all your resources ready
- Have your break time & lunch time planned and what you will eat
- Talk to your friends by phone, social media during the breaktimes or go outside for some fresh air.
- Get your work done!
- There is no excuse for anyone to fall behind in work.
- Your teachers are putting in the work so should you.

I would also advise that students be kind on social media to their friends and others, and to be careful of sending or reading incorrect or false information that is floating around.



Some Feedback from our Students on Remote Learning

I like remote learning because the teachers give us loads of time to complete our work. It is also easier to concentrate when doing my work. I also enjoy listening to music when doing my work and I can do that at home.

Remote learning is a bit of a challenge but is made one million times easier by sticking to the timetable given, taking things one class at a time. It's quite manageable, as far as technical difficulties, it's been very easy to reach out and look for tech support.

Although it is different than our normal school days, I enjoy the change. It allows me to experience an opportunity that I might not get. The teachers are all hardworking and still teach in their own way, making feel as if I am still in the classroom. It is nice, I do like the change of pace. However, learning is also nice in the school. I miss seeing the teachers physically and being able to speak with the. My friends as well. The silence in the house is strange on school days at home. Though I am sure we all will be back soon. Safety first, I suppose.

I have survived my first full week of remote learning 😊. It has been a very positive experience for me. My timetable is clear, and I work to that, and lots of communication from my teachers so all in all a good week.

I think it encourages responsibility and initiative more. Sometimes it's nice to just sit down and do your work without any disruptions.

Doing remote learning is hard at the start but if you get into a routine it becomes easier. It's hard to juggle everything too because I live on a farm and I have been landed with work to do at certain times of the day, but I find the time to catch up on the work I missed. The only way we can all go from here is up!!

Remote learning is a little stressful at times but, most of our teachers either send videos or detailed emails on how to complete the assigned work. Especially for maths the videos really help. It is very different than a normal school day but, for us as a class we think it is working well.

After doing remote learning for two weeks I have realised that it is way better than I originally thought. At the start I was worried we would not be getting as much work done as we did in school and I was particularly worried about learning new material. My teachers have been very helpful and we have been getting a lot of work done. Teachers have made remote learning easier because they send us videos and PowerPoints explaining new topics. It is harder to focus at home than it is in school but it has been way better than I first thought.

In my opinion the remote teaching is very good most my teachers make videos of themselves talking about a certain topic we are learning this helps me a lot because it feels like you are in a proper class and I always appreciate the way the teachers take time to respond to my work because I know they have families and are very busy themselves.

Overall, I'm getting on well with the timetable. Most teachers are giving us loads of helpful resources such as videos explaining different things, which is a lifesaver with harder subjects like as maths, chemistry etc. I'm disciplined with the timetable up until about lunch but am finding it hard to get back into it after that. I think I just need to get used to it though. I'm also finding it a bit tricky to

separate class work and my own study, but this is quite an unprecedented situation, so I'm hoping it will come with time.

I'm not finding things too bad! I miss my friends and being in school in general and obviously the world is a lot right now, other than that I'm finding the remote timetable to work quite well. I'm having a few technical difficulties with emails and apps etc but it's more trial and error than anything. I'm keeping up well with the work and understanding the material given. So, all in all not too bad.

I am doing well with the remote timetable, I am finding it very helpful and beneficial, sometimes it can be a bit stressful trying to keep up everything and to keep on track with each subject, but other than that I am doing well 😊. Yeah, I am missing the girls so much, but it's fine because I've been Face Timing them to see them 😊

