

**Bord Oideachais agus Oiliuna Mhaigh Eo, Shligigh agus Liatroma
MAYO, SLIGO AND LEITRIM EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD**



COOLA POST PRIMARY SCHOOL

RIVERSTOWN, via BOYLE, CO.SLIGO. TELEPHONE (071) 91 65365 FAX (071) 91 65869
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Principal: Mr Damien McGoldrick

Deputy Principal: Mr Michael Rooney

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Last week Coola PPS received guidance from Mayo Sligo and Leitrim ETB stating that if schools were to remain closed until January 31st as per Department of Education and Skills directive, all teachers were to work and teach online from home. As a result, all teaching and learning in Coola PPS is happening through the platform of Microsoft Teams. There are a variety of ways in which teachers will liaise with students - online instructions through links, pre-recorded videos of various duration, and face-to-face live online teaching.

Some of the students and teachers live in areas where broadband is limited, and this can determine the method of online participation by both student and teacher. Many teachers also have the added pressure of trying to cope with childcare and home schooling of their own children. In some circumstances, teachers will have no option but to produce a pre-recorded class or online instructions through links.

Live online teaching is another way in which we provide tuition and learning. Whilst classes are 40 minutes in duration, each teacher determines the appropriate amount of screen time used to best teach their class. In a school setting, all classes begin with the teacher explaining the learning outcomes of the class, the content involved, and the methodologies required. We then allow our students to engage with this content. We use the same structure when teaching online. Therefore, each teacher will determine what the appropriate amount of tuition time required is to best suit the needs of the class.

Each teacher will effectively communicate with all classes to ensure that every student participates to the best of their ability.

It is important to note that all students are expected to behave in an appropriate manner whilst using Teams. Inappropriate comments or the misappropriate use of this platform may lead to sanctions ie. removal from the Teams platform. This is for the benefit of all.

Please note that in service continues online for our teachers, and there may be days when teachers are unavailable for online classes. Teachers will inform students in advance of their unavailability.

The school is committed to ensuring that as many students as possible participate on the Teams platform. To that end, a digital record is kept on Teams so that we have precise information on student participation. As previously stated, if you have any concerns/issues with broadband/devices, please contact the school at coolapps@msletb.

Thank you.