



**Loreto Secondary School,
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Monday, 21 May 2018

Dear parents/guardians and students,

I write to inform you of the current position regarding our new school at Pembroke Hill, as follows:

- Sr. Helen O' Riordan (Chairperson, Board of Management) and I attended a meeting in Tullamore last Wednesday with senior officials of the Department of Education and Skills (DES) and the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA).
- We were informed by these officials that very detailed and intense negotiations were ongoing with regard to the appointment of a bidder to manage the school facilities over the next 25 years and to complete the outstanding building works on the four sites that make up Public Private Partnership (PPP) Bundle 5 – Wexford, Bray, Carlow and Kells. We were informed that the Sammon examinership had added extra complexity to the overall situation.
- The officials stated that the schools that are closest to completion remain best positioned to be finished for September 2018. Loreto, Wexford is one of these schools. As of today, therefore, our primary focus is on making all necessary arrangements to move to Pembroke Hill for the start of the 2018/2019 school year.
- It is considered prudent to make contingency preparations in the event that any of the projects forming part of Bundle 5 are not ready for occupation by September. I shall be in touch with you in the coming weeks should it be necessary to implement such arrangements and to outline the extent and nature of same.
- The Board of Management continues to monitor the situation very closely and will always seek to act in the best interests of the Loreto school community. The Board is of the view that everything possible to rectify the current situation is being done by DES and NDFA officials, along with representatives of the PPP Company and their lenders.
- The Board also recognises that the current school year has been very difficult for staff, students and parents. The timetable for the year was constructed with a view to moving to the new school last November. As a consequence of the ongoing delay, daily school life has been conducted in buildings that are not really fit for purpose. It is to the credit of staff and students that the effect

of this on teaching and learning has been kept to a minimum. For this, the Board is particularly grateful.

On a separate note, I wish to advise you that the calendar and booklists for 2018/2019 have been placed on the school website – www.loretowexford.com.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments in relation to these matters.

Kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

Billy O' Shea,
Principal.