



19th March 2020

MIGS/ADM/T2/PRC/WS/PS/2020-0205

Dear MIGS community

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL- LATEST UPDATE

I trust this email finds everybody well and our community continues to remain safe and everyone is following all guidelines and advice pertinent to this current situation.

As the situation remains fluid and continues to evolve, allow me to share some recent updates with you. Over the coming weeks should circumstances change I aim to keep our community as up to date as possible as new information is relayed to the school.

I continue to remain in contact with the Ministry of Education and will seek guidance. Allow me to share the most recent updates.

School Closure

School remains closed as we follow the recent *Movement Control Order* with effective dates from **18/3/2020 - 31/3/2020**. As the dates run into our natural term break, School will remain closed to the end of the term break, with a predicted opening on **Monday 13th of April 2020**. Should it become necessary to close the school following this date, I will inform all parents via email.

Maintaining learning

As we refine and revise our distance learning, as staff and students work and connect from home, I appreciate all the efforts from staff as well as the efforts from parents. Hopefully the mixture of written tasks, research, and classes led by google classroom and other software applications will facilitate continued learning. Please do connect with teachers who will be happy to answer questions and assist where necessary.

Parent Teacher Conferences and School Reports

Initially it was my intention to facilitate the conferences online, however, as not everyone will have access to this facility, I will postpone this event with a predicted date of Thursday the 16th of April 2020. This will also be the day school reports from Term Two will be available.

Examinations

As I write this message Cambridge Assessment International Education assures us that the International Examinations will continue to be available for the IGCSE May/June series. You may well have heard in the news the UK examinations are currently working on an amended timeline as they generally complete GCSEs and should things change for the International section (IGCSE) I will let you know as a matter of priority. We also still hope to be able to complete the checkpoint examinations in April for both Year 6 and Year 9. Below is an extract from the help section of the CAIE website:-

FAQs for Cambridge schools worldwide

Is Cambridge going ahead with the June 2020 series?

Yes. The June 2020 exam series timetable is global and we work in over 160 countries. It is not possible for us to make changes at short notice because timetabling across many different countries is so complex.

Will Cambridge International exams go ahead following the UK government announcement about school exams in England? (NEW - Updated 18 March)

Yes. Cambridge International exams – including Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge O Level, Cambridge International AS & A Level, Cambridge AICE Diploma – are separate from the exams mentioned by the UK government today. Cambridge International exams will go ahead outside the UK in countries where schools are open or exams can be held safely.

As with other Principals in the area, we will be in communication with Cambridge International and the MOE to establish the safety of running examinations. I will provide updates as they arrive. For the current time all timetables remain in place.

Year 11 Exam/Study Leave

As we have missed a number of days for our year 11 IGCSE students, I am proposing that all Year 11 examination or study leave is suspended. In order to ensure our Year 11 students are as prepared as possible, staff are ready to receive the Year 11 students from the 13th of April following their usual timetable until the 30th of April 2020. I will send a separate notification to Year 11 students in due course.

To conclude

I would also like to take a moment to thank you for your patience, understanding and support to keep our community as safe as possible. Please find a brief table to outline our closures and predicted opening dates.

Date	Description / Action
Thursday 19 th March 2020 - Thursday 26 th March 2020	<i>School Closed</i>
Friday 27 th March 2020 - Sunday 12 th April 2020	<i>School closed - Term Break commences</i>
Monday 13 th April 2020	<i>School Re opens (PTC online booking system opens)</i>
Thursday 16 th April 2020	<i>School Reports and PTC</i>

Yours Sincerely,
JOHN PAUL BIRCH
Principal