



1st April 2020

MIGS/ADM/T2/PRC/SS/PS/2020-0208

Dear Parents/Guardians,

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – IGCSE UPDATES, 1ST April 2020

Once again I would have liked to have updated you today on the final examinations options, however; I still await the additional guidance from the examination board. Allow me to refer to the most important information from CAIE that we received late yesterday evening (Tuesday 31st March);

As stated in our email to schools on 26 March, we are writing today (31st March) with further updates on providing grades for students, private candidates, our discussions with universities and other questions.

We are endeavouring to provide as much clarity as we can as quickly as possible. In these unprecedented circumstances, it is important for us to make sure all our students obtain the fairest outcome possible, with the quality and integrity they would expect from Cambridge.

Thank you for your patience. Further details will be sent on Tuesday 7 April 2020.

So unfortunately at this time, we have to wait for further instructions. CAIE have indicated that as we suspect, the decision on which grades to be awarded to candidates will be made by Cambridge, using their own evidence in combination with evidence from MIGS. We are therefore due to collaborate with CAIE to create evidence-based decisions about grades for each candidate in each subject they have entered for in the May/June 2020 exam series for Cambridge IGCSE.

All schools have been asked to consider what evidence we will be able to gather to support these decisions, such as examples of work candidates have done to prepare for their May/ June 2020 exams. I believe CAIE will then assess commonalities across schools to assist in their decisions for which pieces of evidence are available and reliable.

CAIE go on to state the following from their email correspondence:

The types of evidence that might be available could include but will not be limited to:

- ***mock exams***
- ***coursework (complete or incomplete)***
- ***assignments***
- ***grades in previous sittings for candidates re-taking exams.***

They also advise us that: -

You do not need to set students fresh work to gather evidence - for example, you do not need to set new mock papers, set assignments or ask them to complete unfinished coursework.

In due course, you will be asked to process the evidence you have gathered. More details of the processing we will ask you to do will be shared on Tuesday 7 April. Exact deadlines will be circulated later.

Here at MIGS, I am working with our examination officer and teaching staff to gather and review evidence for our auditing purposes. We will also keep all evidence we consider should CAIE request this in the future.

So at this time all we can do is await further information for the examination board. Please rest assured that as soon as this information on how to assess students' achievements for IGCSE using the best available evidence becomes available, I will share this accordingly.

When I receive clearer guidance I will share this with parents. Until this time, I hope everyone continues to remain safe and please follow the guidelines as required by the Ministry of Health.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN PAUL BIRCH
Principal