

29 August 2020

Dear Parents

After a series of very challenging months of online learning we are delighted and excited to welcome our students to face to face learning as of the 1st September 2020.

We had invited parents to an open session to visit the campus to explain the process of the COVID protocols that have been installed to ensure that our students are safe on return.

As was expected we received a huge turn out from our Primary School parents followed by a modest attendance by our High School parents.

Parents were taken through the routine of how students will be received over the next few days.

Our plan to open school schools in a staggered way, was based on the data that was received from parents. Naturally, this is changing as we prepare to open, and our plans will be adjusted accordingly to accommodate the numbers as they increase.

Should there be any deviations from the proposed plan of returning to lessons, parents will be immediately informed.

Lessons

Parents please note that normal lessons will begin virtually from Tuesday as per the school timetable simultaneously as we receive our students in a staggered way during the course of the week.

Drop Off and Pick Up Times

Parents have been advised about the drop off and pick up arrangements for students on a daily basis during parent orientation. I encourage parents to please carefully read the COVID plan which was been circulated at the end of last term.

Students can be dropped off at the respective campuses from 6.30 daily.

Parents will not be allowed to jump out of their cars.

Pick up times for the Primary School is 1.00 pm sharp.

High School will be 1.30 pm sharp.

In the event of siblings from the Primary school having to wait for siblings from the High School, they will be walked across to the High School where they will be socially distanced outside the Chemistry laboratory at the High school until the seniors are dismissed.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

+27 18 381 0330 +27 18 381 0330 issaprimary@issa.co.za



"If it's important to the child, it's important to us."

SECONDARY SCHOOL

+27 18 381 1102 +27 18 381 1187 admin@issa.co.za



Dress Code

High School

Students will alternate between allowed school uniform and civvies, beginning with school uniform on the 1st September. This is to avoid the wearing of the same clothes. On civvies days we ask that students dress appropriately. This will be carefully monitored.

Students in the high school will be allowed to carry their books and personal PC`s to school daily.

Primary School

Students will alternate between their P.E kit and school uniform.

Bags, books and stationery will be brought to school on the first day, thereafter students will not be allowed to take any books home. The accepted protocols will be reinforced through regular feedback from teachers to parents.

PPE`s

Students must wear cloth masks as stipulated by the Department of Health. Masks must be washed and ironed daily, and it is advisable that students have more than one mask. A face shield is optional and is not a requirement as stipulated in the national COVID regulations.

Boarding

We look forward to welcoming our Boarding students from the 20th September. We will continue to support those students that cannot travel to South Africa using the virtual hybrid model as has already been shared by the school. Parents, thank you for your engagement and understanding in our recent ZOOM meeting.

Staffing

Ms. Jidzo Ndebele will be replacing Mrs. Nicky Leeuw in the Grade 2 class.

Ms. Ndebele joins us from Mitchell House in Polokwane and taught under my leadership for 3 years at Ridgeway Preparatory School in Louis Trichardt.

In Grade 1, Mrs. Michelle Swartz will be joining us for a closed period for Term 3 while we wait for the arrival of the official teacher in 2021. She has been teaching Foundation Phase at QT Kids opposite ISSA and has come to us with strong recommendations.

We look forward to welcoming Nadine Lebartie who will be officially joining us at the beginning of January 2021 to replace Nazeema Karodia who left us at such short notice. She is currently teaching Foundation Phase at St Dominics College in Welkom and served her internship at St. Stithians Preparatory school in Johannesburg for 4 years before moving to Welkom. She could not join us this term due to the notice period she had to serve at her school.

Sadly, we say goodbye to Mrs Cynthia Kraak who leaves the International School of South Africa after 25 years of long service. She has chosen to resign with immediate effect due to personal family reasons. We wish to thank her for her loyal service and dedication to the school for so many years and we wish her and her husband Ubbo, a happy retirement as they move on to start a new life in Mpumalanga Province from the 15 September 2020.

To replace Mrs Kraak, we welcome Miss Kerisha Bhugwateparsad who joins us from Elora Primary school in Durban. She will be joining us for a closed contract until the end of the year.

We thank Miss Chandre Klaaste- Lewis who has been a teacher intern for 3 years at ISSA for stepping in as the Grade 5, English and interim class teacher until the end of the year. Her dedication and commitment over the years has been noteworthy. Mrs. Stella Nyemba will continue as the Grade 5 Social Studies teacher until the end of the year. I am confident that this plan will give us stability until we find a suitable replacement.

In the High School, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. John Mosime, a product of Mmabatho High School. He holds a BA degree from the University of Pretoria in Geography and a PGCE from the University of South Africa. He started his teaching career at Lebone II and worked in the Royal Bafokeng educational programmes in Rustenburg. He relocated to Limpopo Province, where he taught grades 8-12 Geography at Waterberg Academy and produced strong results.

Mr. Mosime is also a keen swimming coach and has also been involved in running swimming programmes whilst in Limpopo Province. He holds a Level 2 Swimming certificate from the American Swimming Coaches Association.

Mr. Mosime will be replacing Mr. John Nyamunda in the P.E. and Geography departments.

In conclusion I am extremely grateful to all parents for your support during these challenging times.

I urge us to continue with this support as we go into a new space in the 3rd Term.

Yours sincerely



Bruce Wells
CEO/Headmaster
International School of South Africa.