

12 September 2020

Dear Parents

We are delighted that we can welcome our Boarders back to school from the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Parents please take heed of the published dates and travel times in the letter you have received from Mrs Boitshoko Boinamo's office. Please confirm all travel plans by 14:00 on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

All final travel communication plans must be sent to [bboinamo@issa.co.za](mailto:bboinamo@issa.co.za)

Should anything change on the published travel schedule, parents will be informed.

### **Travel Letters**

Parents, it would seem that there is a variation in requirement in travel letters for the purpose of travel from the different countries.

The school will also try its best to adjust the letter according to the needs of the country. Please send these requirements to Boitshoko by Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Boarding Houses**

Only two boarding houses will be open this term as a result of the reduced numbers returning for boarding in Term 3.

A third hostel, KWENA will be used to quarantine students as they arrive at intermittent times post the 20<sup>th</sup> September and they will be integrated into THUTLWA and NKWE once their quarantining period is over.

THUTLWA for girls supervised by Mrs. Grace Makudo as Houseparent and staff.

INKWE for boys with Mr. Peter Chitashu as Houseparent and staff.

KWENA which is the official quarantine hostel will be supervised by Sr. Badimo and staff.

All students will remain in quarantine for the first 10 days. They will receive their meals in the residence and continue with online lessons until the end of their quarantine period. All COVID protocols will be followed as per the plan that has been sent out to Boarding parents. The school nurse Sr. Badimo will run daily screening sessions with the students while they are in quarantine.

Our boarding houses and school continue to receive several visits from the designated authorities to ensure that we remain compliant with the COVID-19 protocols.

South Africa is now on Level 2 and has allowed inter- provincial travel to take place since the 18th August 2020, therefore local boarding parents can make travel arrangements to leave their children at school on the 20<sup>th</sup> September if they so wish. However, parents will not be allowed into the Boarding Houses.

Local Boarding students do not have to go into quarantine if they are travelling from within the borders of South Africa.

### **Flights into South Africa**

Flights are now landing at Oliver Tambo International Airport depending on the agreed protocols between South Africa and the respective countries.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

+27 18 381 0330 +27 18 381 0330 [issaprimary@issa.co.za](mailto: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](mailto:admin@issa.co.za)



This week we have already met one boarding students at O.R. Tambo International Airport through an arranged flight that parents managed to secure from within their country.

We will support pick-ups from the airport at agreed times if parents are able to secure private flying arrangements out of their respective countries for their children into South Africa. At the moment this space remains very fluid.

### **Boarding Fees**

Parents would have read my unhappiness in the way in which fees have been paid and sadly the same would apply to boarding students. The Board offered generous discounts to parents in Term 2. However, this has come at a huge cost to the school as a result of the unforeseen and unintended operational expenses that have been incurred as a result of COVID-19.

Thank you to those parents who have managed to pay their school fees on time.

The Board had agreed to a 25% discount for third term fees as a means of trying to keep the cost down for the parents.

We cannot go back on this decision as we open boarding. Thank you to those parents that have offered to pay full fees to support the sustainability of the school during these challenging times. If there are more parents that wish to support this initiative, please feel free to contact the Finance Office or myself. We hugely appreciate this kind gesture from our parents.

### **Conclusion**

Parents please do not hesitate to call me should you need any further clarity about boarding and travel arrangements. Might I add at this stage that boarding is open for all students and not only the CAIE final examination candidates. I have been reliably informed that there is a growing narrative out there that boarding is not opening for all students and I wish to correct that perception.

Many thanks for your continued support of the International Boarding School of South Africa. We look forward to receiving your children, our children into boarding from the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Continue to stay safe in your countries.

Yours sincerely



Bruce Wells  
CEO/Headmaster  
International School of South Africa.