

Dear Parents

15 January 2021

As you are aware, we had planned to start our academic year on the 19th of January 2021, expecting that we would be able to resume full contact lessons on Tuesday.

However, following the outcome of a meeting of all stakeholder partners in Public and Private education, convened by the National Corona Command Council and Department of Basic Education last night, regarding the second wave of Covid-19 infections and its impact on the opening of schools for the year, we are having to revise our planned opening for full contact lessons.

The NCCC has proposed that schooling be deferred to the 15th of February 2021 with the view to go back to online learning for those that are able to do so. As a school we have formed the view that we begin our online learning from Tuesday to support the national call for a lockdown of schools for face-to-face learning. The decision to return to face-to-face learning remains a fluid one at this stage because the situation changes frequently.

However, we would inform parents of the proposed return to face to face learning as and when we have a clearer idea what this represents.

We acknowledge that this may have an impact on the travelling arrangements that you as parents of boarding students may already have made.

However, we implore parents to maintain their existing travel arrangements for their children. The advised offered is for boarding students to return to the country by this weekend as per plan if the country does have to implement a harder lockdown.

In this way we want to assure you that we will still be accommodating your children should they arrive based on the initial travelling plans. It is important to note that Boarder students who had already planned to travel to school on Sunday the 17th of January, will be received at OR Tambo or other land ports as per schedule. They will be connecting to lessons from their Boarding Houses under supervision from Houseparents and Tutors. Please communicate any challenges and changes to travel arrangements through our Travel Coordinator.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

SECONDARY SCHOOL

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We will facilitate the online learning space within the boarding houses, so that your children can join the virtual lessons. We are pleased to inform parents that we have improved the capacity for internet connectivity in our residences which will allow our children to enjoy uninterrupted access to Google classroom.

Please take note that our international students can travel into the country according to COGTA regulations.

We will continue to maintain the stringent protocols we have applied in the residence as we had previously done when received boarders back to face-to-face learning in the of September 2020.

We want to thank you for your commitment and understanding in these uncertain times, and as ever we will endeavour to keep you abreast of any developments as the situation remains fluid and open to change.

Regards

Mrs. L Gabriel

Deputy Head Pastoral

