



19th August, 2020

Academic Year 2020-2021

Dear Parents,

Further to my previous letters, I am writing to provide you with an update regarding the start of the academic year.

As I am sure you are aware, it was mandated last week that the start of the academic year for private and government schools has been delayed until November 1st.

The news has come as a real disappointment to all of us, especially as we spent a great deal of time during the summer break preparing for the start of the academic year. Our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Firefly, has been expanded to include Primary and the development of the parent portal has been brought forward. We have also been working with the company to have some aspects of the VLE available in Arabic.

In addition, our e-learning programmes have been reviewed to allow us to provide more interaction between students and teachers. On campus, we have also initiated our COVID-19 Health and Safety protocols that would allow staff and students (in reduced numbers) to work in a safe controlled environment.

I have also been contacted by a number of parents who have children in the IGCSE and IB programmes, especially Years 11 and 13, who are concerned about the delay to the start of the year. Mr. Mohammed (IGCSE Coordinator) and Mr. Charles (IBDP Coordinator) have been in touch with Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) and the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) regarding this matter and we are waiting for their feedback.

Given the opportunity, we are confident that we could deliver a comprehensive programme for all of our students, be it on-line or through a hybrid model and we are presently talking to the MOE to see how we can move forward with regards to this matter.

As soon as I have any more information, I will contact you again.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Glenn Canterford
Principal