

12 January 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians



1. We wish you all a very happy New Year, in spite of all the challenges that we still face as a country. We extend a warm welcome to the new parents and new learners. It's also wonderful to engage with our existing parents and learners again.

To those of you who have lost loved ones recently, please accept our sincere condolences.

2. This letter is an attempt to answer the many questions that you may have regarding the 2021 school opening details. Last night, our President indicated that an announcement in this regard would be made shortly. These details may or may not apply to independent schools such as ours.
3. Obviously, therefore, the plans which we will outline below are open to change. Nonetheless, we have decided to proceed to update you about our plans thus far. The details below, apart from possible date changes, still apply.
4. Because Lockdown Level 3 prohibits public gatherings, we have postponed the Orientation sessions for new parents (previously scheduled for 15 January for new High School parents, and for 18 January for new Primary School parents). As soon as we are permitted to do so, we will try to reschedule these important sessions. In the meantime, new parents are asked to read the 2021 Procedures Document. Any queries can be directed to our Client Liaison Office.
5. Sadly, the Welcome Party for the new Primary School learners has been cancelled, for the children's safety. However, each new learner will receive a welcome party-pack.
6. Existing boarders need to return to Hostel on Saturday 16 January, between 1pm and 5pm. January Hostel fees are payable on that date. [We thank the site team for painting many of the dormitories and for replacing the worn carpets with durable rubber tiles].
7. New boarders need to report to Hostel on Sunday 17 January, between 12 noon and 5pm. January Hostel fees are payable on that date. Social distancing, screening, masks and regular hand-sanitizing will be insisted upon at all times.
8. In order to ensure compliance with the Education Department's COVID-19 policies, we are permitted to allow only 50% of learners into a classroom at one time.

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9. Therefore, High School lessons begin for girls on Monday 18 January* at 7:45am and on Tuesday 19 January* for boys. All learners need to report to the field, where chairs have been set out for social distancing. New and returning learners will then be allocated to their register classes. High School lessons will end at 2:00pm, and no afternoon activities may take place until further notice.
10. Primary School lessons begin on Tuesday 19 January* at 7:45am for boys and on Wednesday 20 January* for girls. The Primary School learners will be met by staff members at the school gate, and will be taken to their new classes. We regret that the COVID restrictions do not yet allow for parents to meet the teachers. Gr. R-3 lessons will end at 1:30pm and Gr. 4 – 7 lessons will end at 1:45pm.

There will be no afternoon activities until further notice, except that our Pebbles After-Care centre will run from the afternoon of Tuesday 19 January.

11. All Grade 7 and Grade 12 learners will attend school EVERY DAY. Grade 4 – 6 and Grade 8 – 11 classes will be given written work to be completed at home on the days that they are not at school.
12. Kindly avail yourselves of the new drive-through facility which has been developed on the easterly boundary of the school. Learners can be safely dropped off and collected there.
13. Please find attached our Schools' and Hostel's COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols for your attention and action. Please send a signed copy of the protocol document to the school at your earliest convenience.
14. In the event that schools remain closed until further notice, we will revert to online teaching methods, especially via Google Classroom or Class Dojo. Further details will follow if this avenue needs to be pursued. Please note that we will function only as an on-site (at school) OR on-line (computer-based) school, but will not be able to educate in both these ways at the same time. Thus, if the school is open, there can be no computer-based lessons offered to students who are absent.

We are doing everything within our power to ensure that your children are properly educated in a safe, nurturing environment. We thank you for your trust and support.

Yours in quality education



Mrs S Hurlin
High School Principal and Director

*Please refer to the calendar attached.

Directors
S A Hurlin (Principal)
BA BEd HED (PG)
R S Hurlin
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The education of the whole person, in an atmosphere of excellence and integrity, to the glory of God