

15 January 2021

Dear Prep Parents, Guardians and Caregivers

### **Introduction to teachers and distribution of teaching resources**

Following today's announcement by the Deputy Minister of Basic Education, delaying the opening of all schools until mid February, we have decided to revert to our online or remote learning model for the rescheduled start of term on Wednesday, 20 January. This will allow us to at least commence with teaching and learning without losing any additional teaching time.

While this is a great frustration and disappointment for us as staff and for our school community, we are eager to make a start to the academic year. It is very unfortunate that we are not able to start the year in the normal manner and we will truly miss the wonderful energy and excitement that accompanies the children as they return to the school campus.

As ISASA continues to engage the Education Department to expedite a return to school, we are mindful of the situation in which our country finds itself in relation to the COVID pandemic and believe that we should be acting for the common good and for the wellbeing of all South Africans.

### **Introduction and class allocation in the Prep School**

In preparation for the closure of schools, we have scheduled times for children and parents to be introduced to their teacher and collect teaching resources and equipment for the start of term.

Class allocations will be displayed at the various phases and may be viewed after screening has taken place. Once you have your child's class allocation you will be directed to that teacher's venue where you can meet briefly with the teacher and collect resources required. We ask parents to assist us in managing numbers and protocols on campus by following the schedule listed below wherever possible.

#### **Schedule**

Monday 18 January	09:00-10:00	Surnames A-G
	10:00-11:00	Surnames H-N
	11:00-12:00	Surnames P-Z
Tuesday 19 January	14:00-15:00	Alternative collection and meeting time

***Should you be unable to make the allocated time slot please revert to one of the other Monday slots or make use of the Tuesday option. Failing this please notify the Academic Secretary Mrs Catherine Grootboom ([c.grootboom@oakhill.co.za](mailto:c.grootboom@oakhill.co.za)).***

## Venues

Parents and children will need to be screened at screening stations in each of the areas listed below.

**Little Oaks (Grade 000-R)** - access school through side gate opposite the school shop

**Foundation Phase (Grade 1-3)** - access school through the top gate on Syringa Street where you will be met and directed to the Foundation Phase temperature check Station.

**Intermediate Phase (Grade 4-7)** - access along walkway in front of school near the music building

Please ensure that you and your children are wearing the mandatory face masks and that you maintain physical distancing throughout the school campus. Please do not congregate on campus and exit the campus promptly once you have been to your child's class.

We thank you for your assistance in this regard and regret the inconvenience that this may well cause. Our teachers have been hard at work preparing for the possibility of a shift, once again, to the online or remote teaching model and we are therefore confident that we can make the most of these unfortunate recent developments.

We realise that there are varying views concerning the management of the pandemic and the consequent balancing act our country finds itself in. We do, however, remain very grateful for the understanding and support of the Oakhill community and look forward to supporting each other as we navigate these challenging and fluid times.

You will receive further communication from the various Academic Directors and Phase Heads in due course.

Kindest regards



James Cross  
Head of Prep



Mrs Sharon Brown  
Acting Head of College