

Summer Holiday Update: 1

Date: 26th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you are all having a restful summer break before the start of the next academic year.

As you may already be aware, KHDA has published its plans for re-opening Dubai schools in September. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to the school building next academic year, but will need to make a number of adjustments to how we operate in order to ensure that this is done with the safety of our staff, students and their families in mind.

The full list of recommendations from KHDA can be found on their website: <https://www.khda.gov.ae/CMS/WebParts/TextEditor/Documents/Schools-Reopening-Protocol-En.pdf>

The key recommendations from KHDA are that:

- Designated drop off and pick up areas will be allocated for each 'Year' group where teachers/ parents will collect the students.
- Parents will not be able to access the rest of the school
- Upon arrival to school, students will pass through a number of designated entrances. The entrance points will be fitted with thermal imaging cameras, which will record each student's temperature. For those persons with a temperature above 37.5 °C, their parent will be contacted to take them home.
- In order to minimize any possible spread of infection, we create year group 'bubbles' that do not mix with other year groups
- It is important to note that physical distancing procedures are an integral part of managing the risk and spread of Covid-19. Classrooms will be set up to accommodate reduced capacity and social distancing.
- Teachers and students above the age of 6 are required to wear face masks.
- A strict policy of stay at home if ill
- Stagger start times, break times, lunchtimes and finish times for different year groups
- Minimize the use of shared equipment and spaces in the school and follow an enhanced cleaning schedule
- Any students who travel must adhere to any UAE authority requirements, including any self-isolation and testing requirements. Travel declaration forms will be required for all those who travel; these must be submitted to the school prior to travel occurring. Anyone displaying any Covid 19 symptoms when returning from travel must not come to school, ensure they notify the school and self-isolate.

Meeting these requirements will entail considerable planning and additional resources, but we are confident that we will be able to offer your child a full, broad and balanced curriculum and outstanding pastoral support. However, you should expect for a period of adjustments until new routines become embedded.

GFM has submitted their 'Reopening plan' to KHDA and are waiting their feedback, so whilst we are already making plans regarding your child's return to school, we are not yet in a position to confirm full details of the arrangements regarding our re-opening. We will provide full details as soon as we have received approval from KHDA.

I would like to thank you all for the efforts you have made to support your child with their remote learning during the last five months. I hope you and your family have a safe and restful summer and we look forward to welcoming your child back to school in September.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Akram Tarik
Principal / CEO