

Date: 5th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone is safe and enjoying their summer break. As we reach the middle of the holidays, I would like to share with you how we are preparing for the academic year ahead. You may be aware that all schools in Dubai have submitted their re-opening plans to the KHDA for approval which must adhere to a strict set of rules that have been published by the regulators and the Dubai Health Authority. Once these plans are approved, we will be able to communicate to you precisely the arrangements in place for your child.

Our plans are centred around three critical factors:

- 1) The safety of your children across all age-groups at GFM. We will adhere to all Health and Safety regulations without exception.
- 2) The well-being of your children. We want them to be happy to be back at school, excited to see their friends and at all times feel safe and reassured that GFM is doing everything they can to keep them safe and provide them with a high-quality education.
- 3) To provide an outstanding education that is uncompromised by the changes in delivery. We will ensure that every lesson is supporting the progress of your children whether delivered face to face in the classroom or via our Remote Learning strategy, which achieved the highest rating of 'Developed' by the KHDA during Term 3.

With these principles at the heart of our plan, we will be planning on offering

- all FS1, FS2, Yr 1 and Yr 10 students the option for on-site education every day
- all other Year groups the option for on-site learning every other day (e.g. Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday)

In line with a recent KHDA directive, we will also be offering a 100% Distance Learning option for all children and students for those parents/families who request it. We understand that some parents would prefer to keep their children at home for a little longer, and we will fully support these families with a 100% Distance Learning programme. We will ensure their curriculum is in-line with that of the children in school. Whatever option you choose, both options will have the same learning commitment every day and are offered at exactly the same rate.

To avoid congestion at the beginning and end of every day, timings will be slightly staggered. We have also re-written the timetable to minimise movement around the school, maximising learning time and enhancing student safety. The classroom will also look a little different, with desks spaced out to achieve social distancing. We will also be creating a number of learning bubbles that students will keep within.

I am firmly committed to building on the school's journey and development. We have also recruited strongly and look forward to welcoming our small group of new teachers and additional leaders to GFM in the next few weeks - well-ahead of the term beginning. We are also looking forward to our induction sessions for the new students and children who are joining us this year.

As GFM continues to grow in popularity, we are conscious that our space and resources are fully utilised. The children who come to GFM receive the best education and a level of support that means everyone succeeds. Our promise is to ensure that during this Blended Learning phase, and with whatever happens next, our children, students and families will continue to experience the excellent education, excellent support and excellent experience you have come to expect from GEMS Education and GFM.

It is our intention to write to all parents with specific plans for each student within the next few weeks, once we have final approval. We will also be sending yourselves and our students' recordings and information on what it will be like coming back to school. If you have any questions relating to this letter, then please contact Ms. Alaa Ibrahim our PRE at pre_gfm@Gemsedu.com

We will keep you updated with information over the coming weeks.

Always placing the best interests of your child first,

Akram Tarik
Principal / CEO