PO Box 60968, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates T +971 2 510 0100 E enquiries@bisad.ae

23rd August 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I trust you have had a safe and enjoyable summer. It is wonderful to be back at school and we are all looking forward to having your children in class in the coming days. Details of some very positive changes to the current guidance were shared by Mr. Horne last week. Later today you will also receive the ADEK form which need to be completed to enable your son / daughter to attend school next week. In this letter, you will find details relating to the start of term in the Primary School.

Orientation Day – Thursday 26th August

I am pleased to inform you that Orientation Day will go ahead on Thursday, 26th of August. This is an excellent opportunity for students to connect with the teacher and each other. This will be a virtual event this year using Microsoft Teams. For new students appointments will run from 9am until 11am. This will provide an opportunity to raise any questions or concerns that you may have. From 12pm whole classes will convene online allowing new and existing students to meet and get to know each other in advance of the first day of term. The class teacher will be in touch to provide details and links to the meetings. We are looking forward to seeing you all on Orientation Day.

Day One - Sunday 29th August

Like last year, each year group will have their own entry and exit point and time for drop off and collection. Please refer to the following link showing you the map and timings for entry and exit to the school.

Map and timing link here.

Specific Guidance for Term 1

- All students from Y2 upwards must wear a face mask at all times and have a spare
- Students must bring their own hand sanitizer and wash their hands regularly
- Students must socially distance at all times
- Students must bring their own class equipment (teachers are not permitted to hand out equipment such as pens and pencils)
- Student must avoid sharing equipment and belongings
- Students need to bring their own food and two full water bottles
- Social distancing of 1 metre must be observed in all classrooms and where there are too many students for the class to be safe, overflow rooms will be used. Students from Y2 upwards should therefore continue to bring a laptop and headphones to school
- We are pleased that the current regulations allow us to introduce adapted PE lessons and after school clubs.
- On PE days your child will need to attend school in their PE kit
- Swimming will be reintroduced later in the term
- Face-to-face teaching in class will resume for Arabic, French and Music.
- The library and reading scheme books will be reintroduced this year.

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Buses

There are further changes to the regulations regarding the use of buses. There was a delay for the bus companies in getting drivers back into the country. Which means unfortunately that it is not possible to operate buses during the first week of term. I understand this causes a challenge for many families and want to reassure you that the school is doing all it can to ensure that the service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Finally, please be reminded that all the usual safety provisions remain in place. Students should take responsibility for their own health and the health of others at this time – if they feel unwell in any way, they should make this known to their parents or to their teachers if they are in school. Students should not attend school at all if they have a cough, sore throat, fever, a high temperature, shortness of breath or a runny nose.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher or year leader. I look forward to seeing you next week.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Cocker Head of Primary