



**Monday 17 February 2020**

Dear Parents,

First of all, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support during these most difficult circumstances. Trying to keep the school community together and our spirits high is proving challenging as the days become weeks, but we remain determined to show how resilient BSB Sanlitun is and to maintain a positive attitude during these hard times.

Our teachers have been doing a superb job of providing high-quality work and activities for our students to ensure our online support for pupils is of the highest standard. I am extremely grateful to them for working in what for many of them are the most testing of circumstances.

I would also like to say a big thank you to our administrative and support teams who have also been working incredibly hard to offer support and continued communication throughout this whole period.

Working together with our school community, we are looking forward to the time when we will be able to recommence our on-campus learning. As such, I wanted to share with you two important updates:

### **Teachers returning to work – 3 weeks' notice**

While a few teachers have remained within Beijing, we are aware that most have travelled overseas and will need time to make arrangements to return and to meet the 14-day self-quarantine protocol which the Beijing authorities have now imposed.

I wanted to confirm to you that we will give colleagues three weeks' notice of any opening date. While we can't be more specific at this time regarding exactly when this will be, this will allow one week to arrange travel and an additional two weeks to meet the 14-day requirements which are required for all members of our community.

We would kindly advise parents that the 14-day self-quarantine period will apply to all BSB Sanlitun families returning to Beijing, as well as to staff.

When the time comes, we will then be ready, willing and able to ensure our school is open and to welcome our students back. Until then, our high quality online support will continue. We thank you for your help in making it so successful to date.

### **Making up Learning time**

We do recognise of course that the online learning we continue to provide cannot fully replace in-school learning and therefore we will endeavour to make up an amount of the time that has been lost during the remainder of the school year.



I would stress that these measures are not confirmed, but will give you an idea of what we are considering:

- **Extending the school day** on Mondays and Thursdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.
- **Saturday morning school** from 8.30am to 12.30pm.
- Keeping school open during the **Spring Break Holiday** (we would close on Friday 3rd April, as it is a National holiday.)

Once we know the date of school reopening we can put some detail around these plans and confirm our intentions going forward.

I hope this information will be both helpful and reassuring for you. We are doing all we can, with the resources available to us and under the most challenging of circumstances to provide the best possible support for our pupils and for you as parents. Thank you again for your ongoing support and encouragement – it does mean a great deal. This time will pass, and we will quickly get school up and running again!

Needless to say, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

With my very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

**John Brett**  
Principal