مدرسة الاتحاد الخاصة – جميرا
Al Ittihad Private School – Jumeira
"A generation of heritage guardians and global thinkers"

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August 12, 2020

Dear IPS-J Parents and Students,

We have received many questions regarding the Distance Learning model and the Blended Learning model and the request to extend the submission date for the enrollment of the Distance Learning program. To help you with your decision and to ensure that all your questions are being answered, we will do the following:

1. Please read the detailed explanation of each model in the attached document below (English & Arabic). Both documents have been submitted and approved by KHDA and will be part of the School/Parent Contract Addendum, which will be available to parents next week.
2. We will hold our first Parent Webinar on ***Thursday, August 13th, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*** You will receive a separate email with the invitation link that will allow you to register and submit questions. The topics of this webinar are the educational models, an overview of the health and safety measures we put into place for the Blended Learning model, and a Q & A session.
3. We will extend the Distance Learning Consent form/registration to **Tuesday August 18th, 2020 by 3 p.m.**

Some of the questions we have received so far, I will answer below:

1. **Are full time (100%) Distance Learning live sessions?**
   Yes, from grade grades 6 to 12 are live sessions only.
   Elementary will have mostly live sessions (e.g. we will keep Tech Free Tuesdays).
   KG live sessions will be increased and some sessions will be pre-recorded.

   NOTE: All live sessions will be recorded for later viewing.

2. **Will students in the DL program take assessments in school?**
   Yes, mid-semester and finals will be conducted on campus. Formative assessments and quizzes will be online.

3. **Will both models be offered?**
   Yes

4. **Can we switch between the models?**
   Students will be allowed to switch from the Blended Learning model to the Distance Learning model. However, students will **not** be allowed to switch from the DL program to the Blended Learning model.

5. **Will students from the same family come on the same days to school?**
   Yes, we are trying our best to have siblings come to school on the same days.

6. **Can we pick our days to come to school?**
   No – our main goal is to ensure that we accommodate siblings first. To add additional requests will be very difficult to accommodate at this time.

7. **Can we choose friends in the cohort?**
   No, we have friend requests and we will try to accommodate as best as we can. Given that we have to split the classes into 2 cohorts, it will be very challenging to make this additional accommodation.

8. **Do we have to register for the Blended Learning Model?**
   No – you only need to register for the Distance Learning model (DL). If you didn't register for the DL model, you will be automatically enrolled in the Blended Learning model.

9. **Is there a fee difference between DL and Blended Learning model?**
   No, there will be no fee reduction for DL. Given that our staff will be teaching on campus and online at full capacity, we cannot make a discrepancy in fees between students learning remotely (fully online) and students at school. The input and workload needed to offer both services will stretch the capacity of our staff.

Wishing you a wonderful day,

Dr. Connie & Leadership Team