



Dear Parent / Geagte Ouer

It is now more than five months since the schools have closed on 20 March 2020 and I am well-aware that there is much anxiety around the reopening of the school amongst our GET phase learners in Grade 8 and 9, as well as their parents, regarding work that has been missed and obviously the health and safety of learners. The Senior Management Team has updated our Covid -19 protocol to include Grade 8 and 9 as well as our TREP (Temporary Revised Education Plan). It is also available on our school Facebook page and new website page, www.bosmansdam.co.za. Just click on the Covid-19 tab and scroll down to 'Official Covid-19 Documentation'.

Dit lyk darem of die Wes Kaap oor die piek van infeksies is en almal sal veilig wees mits ons by ons veiligheidsmaatreëls hou soos beskryf in ons protokol. Hierdie maatreëls is tydens inspeksies deur die Departement van Basiese Onderwys en die inspekteurs van die Stad Kaapstad goedgekeur.

ACADEMICS

It is now imperative that any outstanding tasks, projects and examinations for all grades be caught up as soon as possible. If students are not certain if they are up to date regarding their SBA tasks, they must contact their subject teacher or Mr Barnes. The weighting of the first term's mark will be quite significant at the end of the year. The syllabus has been curtailed and, should students in the GET phase keep up with their work and tasks, there is no reason why they cannot achieve success at the end of the year.

Please note that Creative Arts and Technology will not be offered for the remainder of the year. Please bring your Technology and Creative Arts textbooks on your first day back at school for collection. No examinations will be written on those two subjects either. This is a temporary arrangement for 2020. The additional period time that becomes available will be allocated to Afrikaans, Mathematics, Physics, LO and EMS.

Grade 8 students will attend school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and our Grade 9 learners on Mondays and Fridays.

Our Grade 9 learners will return on Monday, 24 August 2020, and our Grade 8 learners on Tuesday, 1 September 2020. New timetables will be issued to the learners on their return. The first day back at school will focus on orientation so they need not worry about packing books for specific subjects.

1. Grade 12 will attend Monday to Friday.
2. Grade 11 will attend, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
3. Grade 10 will attend Tuesday and Thursday.
4. Grade 9 will attend Monday and Friday. (From the 24th August)

5. Grade 8 will attend Tuesday and Thursday. (From the 1st of September)

CORONAVIRUS

Parents of Grade 8 and 9 students must please take cognisance of the following arrangements, which were necessitated by the virus, as we are trying to contain the spread of Covid-19:

- * Mobile phones must preferably be left at home. If at school, it must be handed in during the register period. It will be handed in according to strict anti -Covid guidelines.
- * Students must wear their winter school uniform when attending school.
- * As barbers are open again, rules regarding appearance must be adhered to.

Other precautionary arrangements:

- * Desks have been placed in the middle of the passages to ensure social distancing and there are only 22 desks in the traditional classrooms.
- * Classes have been split and there is a new timetable.
- * All Grade 8 and 9 students will be orientated regarding all measures regarding Covid-19 on their return.
- * Lockers have been moved to allow adequate distance between them.
- * Screening procedures have been put in place.
- * Sanitizing stations have been set up.
- * All Grade 8 and 9 students will receive masks from the school and their temperatures will be checked **twice** daily. Please ensure that they arrive with a mask on their first school day.
- * Parents must please not visit the school unless a sick child is to be collected (OR to pay school fees).
- * Please ensure that your contact details have been updated.
- * Parents are reminded **NOT** to send sick children to school under any circumstances, especially if they have the following symptoms:
 - Cough
 - Fever
 - Shortness of breath*
 - Sore throat
 - No sense of smell or taste
 - Diarrhea
 - OR if they came into contact with someone who has Covid 19 within the last 14 days
- * Students must please **NOT** come to school before 06:45 (the gates will be closed) and not later than **07:45** to ensure the school will start on time.
- * We do not want the students to congregate on the sidewalk before the gates open as social distancing will be difficult to maintain and for obvious safety concerns.
- * They may not enter the premises BEFORE they have been screened.
- * Students who are not wearing a mask will not be allowed to enter the school premises.
BOYS MUST WEAR LONG PANTS AND GIRLS MUST HAVE STOCKINGS ON OR THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER. The virus survives longer on skin and legs are in contact with desks and walls etc. Please support us in our risk reduction strategies.
- * All students must enter the school using the electric sliding gate.
- * Grade 8 and 9 should line up on the northern side (Wolraad Woltemade side).
- * In the case of rain, students will enter through the metalwork gate and queue in single file, 1.5 m apart in the F-passage up to room F4. Once screened, they will go to designated passages to ensure

social-distancing is maintained. They will also be in separate passages should it rain.

GENERAL

Face masks are available at R25 each at the Finance Office. Contact accounts@bosmansdam.co.za for more information.

SCHOOL FEES

I can again only commend our parents who are fulfilling their financial responsibilities to the school in these very trying times. This school cannot operate without your support. We cannot split classes, buy sanitizer, safeguard your child and provide excellent tuition without the financial support of the parents. More than one third of our staff complement is paid by the school, i.e the parents, and we simply cannot do without them as it will compromise the academic standards of the school as well as the safety of our children due to classes being too big.

Please note that the government does not subsidize school fees that remain unpaid even if a subsidy is approved. The shortfall is for the school to recover which is nigh impossible. Bosmansdam High School is an Article 21 school and therefore school fees are payable. There are so-called 'free schools' or Article 20 schools in our surrounding area. Parents must therefore contribute whatever they can afford to their child's education and again, thank you to our parents who do so.

Please note that school fees are payable for the full year by all grades irrespective of the number of school days missed. Should you have been adversely affected financially, please contact Ms Delise Burger at deliseb@bosmansdam.co.za to make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible. Our banking details are as follow for EFT payments:

Bosmansdam High School
ABSA Parow
Branch Code: 632005
Cheque Acc nr: 0390391218

Vriendelike groete

D.R. Human
Skoolhoof
20 August 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Firstly, welcome back. To say that this has been a challenging year so far would be an understatement. We all have to understand that life as we knew it is no longer the norm. We understand that you are probably stressed, afraid and concerned about the effect it will have on your academic year.

We are going to count on you to adhere to all the new rules we have put in place to ensure your safety, the staff's safety and ultimately the community's safety. You are going to sign an undertaking that you will follow and respect the following:

- If you suspect that you may be sick (with **any** contagious medical condition), or have a fever or have recently been in direct contact with a person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19, you will stay home.

- You must wear a mask at all times. You will not be allowed on the premises if you do not have one. Masks are available at the office for R25.
- **You line up (1.5m) apart outside the electric sliding gate. Your hands will be sanitized and your temperature taken. If your temperature is 38°C or over you will be moved to a quarantine area. You will be tested again and should you still be over, your parents will be contacted to fetch you immediately.**
- These entry points will be open from 6:45 to 8:00 in the mornings.
- We know you will probably be excited to see your friends BUT, no hugging, kissing or handshaking is allowed; direct contact must be avoided.
- You will move to the back of the school after being tested.
- You must KEEP LEFT in passages and you must not touch others.
- In a case of rain, you will enter through the metalwork gate and queue in a single file, 1.5 m apart in the F-passage to room F4. Once screened, you will go to designated passages to ensure social-distancing is maintained. You will also be in separate passages should it rain.
- You MUST sanitize your hands before entering a class and when you enter and exit a bathroom. Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap as often as possible.
- You must have the correct stationery and books as no sharing will be allowed. This is for your protection.
- Bring your own water bottle and food. DO NOT SHARE. **The tuckshop will not be open.**

Uniform:

You must wear your school uniform.

The walls and floor of the passages will be sanitized in the morning and in the afternoon. This means that you must go home directly after school (unless you have extra lessons). You CANNOT stand in groups in front of the school. You MUST adhere to social distancing rules.

Classes:

You will be issued a new timetable and class sizes have been reduced to ensure that we adhere to the 1.5m social distancing rule. Classes will be 22 or less and you might have a new teacher. Please give them your full cooperation so that we, together, can ensure a successful year for you.

We would like you not to bring your cellphone to school, but should you choose to, it will be handed in and locked in the safe. Covid-19 protocols are in place for this.

Movement around the school:

You must stick to the KEEP LEFT rule at all times. Your hands will be sanitized by a teacher before entering a class. You are to remain in your desk at all times and at no point are you to contravene the 1.5 m social distancing rule. Toilets have a notice of the maximum occupancy allowed. DO NOT exceed this number, it is for your own protection.

Contravention of social distancing rules:

We are going to be very strict on this. Those who contravene these rules will be issued with a written warning and if there is a second offence, you will be suspended for up to 14 days. We hope that this won't be necessary and that you realise the seriousness of the situation.

All these things have been put in place to ensure the safety of the whole school community. If you take responsibility for your own actions and act in a responsible way, we have nothing to worry about.