



GEMS FirstPoint School

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Dear FirstPoint Family,

Thank you for your patience over the last 2 days and for supporting your children at home with Distance Learning. The DHA have today completed their investigation. They have concluded that there is no immediate health risk in school or onsite, and the school is following every measure, protocol and precaution possible to help keep our children safe and contain any spread. However, the DHA do believe there is an administrative concern with how many students and staff have been contact traced. Therefore, the next step now is to ensure that all students and staff complete an isolation period to further monitor symptoms and potential cases – due to the delayed onset with contact traces.

Therefore, we have been in discussions with the KHDA who have agreed that the most sensible action to take would be to complete a two-week isolation period for the school. This will enable all positive cases and contact traces to complete their quarantine period, whilst also creating a significant window to monitor and manage any further cases.

For that reason, the students must **remain on Distance Learning until the 28th January**. The **first day back** for all students will be **31st January**.

During this time, the school will be putting additional precautionary measures to help prepare for the safe return of students to face-to-face. This will include:

- daily deep cleaning and fogging of all areas to sanitise and remove any traces of the virus,
- the addition of further Covid combatting resources, PPE and sanitising equipment
- further PCR testing for targeted staff members.

It will even include the start of our phase 1 vaccination programme for identified staff. This will then move to a phase 2 wider rollout.

We understand this is disappointing news for our families and staff, as we all want to be back in school as soon as possible. However, please do understand that in these uncertain times, we cannot and will never risk compromising the health of our children. Therefore, we sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this has caused and, again, want to thank you for your support and cooperation.

We look forward to seeing you all back on **Sunday the 31st January**.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Daniel Doyle
Head of School



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GEMS FirstPoint School

THE VILLA

