



4 January 2021

Dear JCA Parents,

RE-OPENING OF JABULANE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

I hope that each of our families experienced the joy of Jesus our Saviour during this festive period and enjoyed some quality time together as a family. My prayer for each of our learners, parents and staff members is to have renewed hope, peace and wisdom this year, and to be thankful in all circumstances (1 The 5:18).

1. Adjusted Lockdown Level 3

On 28 December 2020, President Ramaphosa announced that South Africa would, at midnight, move to Adjusted Lockdown Level 3. Regulations for the adjusted lockdown level were subsequently Gazetted on 29 December 2020 and will remain in effect until 15 January 2021, when they will be re-assessed. The adjusted Level 3 Lockdown restrictions are in response to a sustained increase in the number of COVID-19 infections, brought about partly by a new variant of the virus that is more transmissible.

While the adjusted regulations make no specific mention of schools, and up until today, no new directives have been given by the Department of Education, the School Management of Jabulane Christian Academy has taken the following stance:

Our school has been in operation throughout the previous lockdown level 3 during 2020, and we trust that by God's grace, we will be able to do it again if necessary. School Management continues to believe that a school is one of the safest environments where a learner can find himself/herself as long as the school strictly adheres to all Covid-19 protocols, such as wearing masks at all times, sanitising frequently and keeping social distance. We must realise that the Corona virus will be with us for a long time and we need to learn to live with it, and as far as possible, carry on with daily life.

However, School Management has decided to revise the reopening date for learners to **Monday 18 January 2021**, due to the following reasons:

- i. Gauteng is currently experiencing a rapid surge in Covid-19 infections, especially due to people returning from their holiday destinations in other provinces;
- ii. By opening the school a few days later, it will hopefully allow our learners who are returning from other destinations enough time to isolate at home to ensure that everyone is healthy when returning to school;
- iii. The delay in opening allows time to assess any government announcement that may be made on 15 January 2021 regarding the adjusted Level 3 Lockdown. The plan communicated in this letter will be subject to further announcements made by the President.

2. Tentative Phase-in Approach

With regard to the initial re-enrolment, Jabulane Christian Academy plans to follow a phase-in approach for the re-entry of learners to school. Four grades will return to school on Monday 18 January 2021, and the other four grades will return to school a day later, on Tuesday, 19 January 2021. This will help avoid long queues when learners sign in and report for screening on the first day of school, especially since we expect it to be a new experience for our new learners, making it a bit more time consuming.

We are hoping that once all our grades (R - 7) have phased back into school that all learners may come to school on a daily basis and be in their classrooms simultaneously, as in term 4 of last year. This will be allowed as long as the prescribed distance between desks remains 1m, which is the current requirement in the Standard Operating Procedures for Schools by the Department of Education. Should the regulations change to 1.5m, we will need to revert to rotational learning. We will keep parents updated closer to the opening date.

3. Proposed Dates

Please take note of the following new proposed dates to replace previous arrangements. These preliminary dates are subject to any new regulations promulgated for schools by the Minister of Education and is pending the level lockdown in our country.

| Date | Event | Details |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Mon 4 Jan 2021 | Bethesda Admin office opens | The office is open to receive school fee payments. Please make sure that all <u>registration fees</u>, as well as <u>school fees</u> are paid <u>before the commencement of the term</u> in order for your child to be placed on the 2021 class list. No learner will be allowed to start the new school year if fees are in arrears. Spaces are limited. Contact the finance department at 012 711 0087 or accounts@boi.org for assistance. |
| Thu 7 Jan 2021 | JCA Office opens | Please contact the office on 012 711 0087 or jabulane@boi.org to assist with any queries. JCA golf shirts are available at the school office. Parent meetings will be considered by appointment only. |
| Thu 7 Jan 2021 | New Teacher Orientation | New Teacher Orientation will start at 07:30. |
| Fri 8 Jan 2021 | Phase Head Planning Day | |
| Wed 13 – Fri 15 Jan 2021 | All Teachers return to School | Professional Development & In-service Days start at 07:30 each morning. |

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| Fri 15 Jan 2021 | Delivery of stationery packs | Due to Covid-19 protocol, parents will not be allowed to enter the premises and accompany their children to their classrooms on day 1 of the new term. Should a parent wish to drop off their child's stationery at school ahead of time, it needs to be tied inside a plastic bag, <u>clearly marked with the learner's name, surname, and grade</u> . The stationery bag will be safely stored inside the learner's register class until day one of school. Delivery time will be from 08:00 – 14:00. |
| Mon 18 Jan 2021 | Term 1 commences for Grade R, 1, 4, and 7 learners. | Due to Covid-19 protocol, parents will not be allowed to enter the premises to accompany their children on day 1 of the new term. Drop off time is between 07:00 – 07:35. |
| Tue 19 Jan 2021 | Term 1 commences for Grades 2, 3, 5, and 6 learners. | Due to Covid-19 protocol, parents will not be allowed to enter the premises to accompany their children on day 1 of the new term. Drop off time is between 07:00 – 07:35. |
| Tue 19 Jan 2021 | New Parent Meeting (provided that regulations allow) | 14:30 in the Team Centre. |
| Tue 30 Mar 2021 | Last day of term 1 | The revised date will make up for the two lost academic days during January. |

4. Additional information

4.1 Screening forms

Your child has been provided with enough screening forms for the first week of school. The forms are also available to be downloaded from the d6 resource tab. Parents are requested to complete a form each morning before sending their child to school. Please be reminded that a child should not come to school while presenting any Covid19 symptoms; or when the child has been in direct contact with someone who tested positive for Covid19 (a 10-day isolation period will be required).

4.2 School Uniform

JCA uniform is available at **Overkruin Outfitters**.

Address: 227 Emily Hobhouse Street, Pretoria North

Contact number: 012 546 9384.

4.3 School hours

Drop off time is between 07:00 – 07:35. The academic day will start promptly at 07:45. Learners should not be dropped off at the gate before 07:00 since the school will not be able to allow access to early arrivals and will only be able to provide learner supervision from 07:00 onwards.

| COVID 19 SCHOOL HOURS | |
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| These hours will apply for as long as the protocols prescribed by the Department of Education requires daily deep cleaning and disinfecting of the classrooms. | |
| School Hours: | School Office Hours: |
| Grades R – 3: 07:45 – 12:00 (Mon - Fri) | 07:00 – 15:00 (Mon - Thu) |
| Grades 4 – 7: 07:45 – 12:30 (Mon - Fri) | 07:00 – 14:00 (Fri) |
| | Bethesda Admin Office Hours: (All payments) 08:00 – 16:00 (Mon - Fri) |

4.4 Parent Teacher Conferences

I trust that regulations will allow the school to host one-on-one Parent Teacher Conferences early in February that will provide an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher.

Please be safe during the next couple of weeks and avoid any unnecessary trips to shopping malls or social visits. Let us all work together to make sure all our learners are all in good health when school opens.

Kind Regards



Anine Bonthuys

Principal

Jabulane Christian Academy