

Integrity
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TRIDENT
COLLEGE
SOLWEZI



27 March 2020

Dear Parents

Trident College Remote Learning Weekly Update: 27 March 2020

I hope that this finds you and your families safe and well. It has been good to hear from pupils and parents and we have been greatly encouraged by the engagement of the pupils in the remote learning that we have put in place this week. We had hoped to have more time with students to provide onsite training for use of our remote learning resources; however, the speed of change following the government announcement prevented this.

Remote Learning

It has been a heart-warming experience to see the school community pull together to get the Microsoft Teams platform to work for our interactive teaching. Colleagues are quickly becoming familiar with the facilities Teams offers and we look forward to making regular use of this in our teaching and learning. The objective we set of teaching and assessing pupils on Teams and producing a comprehensive report for every pupil by the end of term (as we would have done if the pupils were here), is on track. We have a virtual staff meeting every morning at 08:00 and I am confident that we are moving in the right direction.

We rely on you, the parents, to support the remote learning of your child. There are still a number of pupils who have not engaged with their classes. Please check that your child is not one of these. Teachers are communicating directly with pupils to compel them to engage but we will not succeed without your support. Your child's Tutor Teachers may also contact your child in this regard, as may the Director of Academics. We do understand that access to the internet is a problem in many households and are making allowances for this, but the education of your child will not succeed without regular engagement with remote learning and therefore the necessary internet access.

We are finding that many pupils are completing assignments well ahead of time, while others say they are overwhelmed. We understand this new format takes some getting used to so do encourage your child to engage with their respective subject teachers to highlight any difficulties they are having. We will support them. In the Teams software, it is very easy to initiate a conversation, or even a video chat, with any member of staff. If you need to contact a teacher, I encourage you to send them an email. Their contact details are [available on our web](#) page and have been attached to this document. Should you need to escalate an issue please contact mwenda.chumpuka@trident-college.com and [copy me in](#).

iSams Connectivity

I am delighted to inform you that iSams, our school MIS (Management Information System), is offering Parent, Pupil and Teacher apps for mobile devices free of charge until the 1st September. Please download the app from your app store. In the process you will be asked for the School Code which is TRI. If all goes according to plan, the term reports will be available on the portal on Thursday 9th April.

If you have any difficulties installing these apps please contact MISTeam@educoreservices.com.

The Future

The pandemic has changed the world forever and shows no sign of abating. We continue to plan for the pupils to come back to school on Sunday 3 May and for teaching to start on Monday 4 May. We await public announcements to see if we can continue with this plan. I ask you to accept that we are fully committed to sustaining the life of Trident College throughout this difficult time. I would further like to reassure you that, if the school is not able to open on Monday 4th May, we will continue to offer the best possible remote learning to all Trident College pupils.



We do, however, recognise that, even with our best efforts, if we are not able to open the school on Monday 4th May, but instead continue to provide remote learning, our educational provision will be different. We are therefore modelling a variety of scenarios relating to the continued delivery of quality learning and teaching in a financially sustainable manner. We will not bill for Term 2 fees until we have more certainty on the various issues we are considering and will keep you updated as we have further clarity.

Marketing and Enrolment

Our 2021 marketing season opened with a fascinating and fruitful trip to the DRC, but was brought to an abrupt halt by C-19! Thank you to all the people who were facilitating the various meeting in the various centres throughout Zambia. The first gatherings were due to be held with existing and prospective parents on the Copperbelt. At the time of cancellation, we had received in excess of 30 replies which is very encouraging.

The meetings will be rescheduled and will, once again, include existing parent meetings and prospective parent engagements all over the country, from Kalumbila to Livingstone. We will also be offering our customary scholarship exams during these marketing tours. If you do know anyone who is looking for schooling for their children in the latter half of 2020 or in 2021, please encourage them to visit [our web page](#) and complete the expression of interest form.

We are living in testing times and need to draw encouragement from each other and the Almighty during these times. I have been heartened to see how everyone is adapting to the new educational world in which we live. We will work tirelessly to return your children to a thriving school on the wonderful Trident College campus as soon as possible but we also do all we can to support your child's learning, albeit in a remote environment at the moment.

Please do not hesitate to engage with the staff or me if you have any concerns, comments or questions.

Yours sincerely

Austin Clarke

Headmaster