

SCHOOLS' RE-OPENING, SEP 2020

We Are Ready For All Scenarios



A Full Return to School

With the highest health
and safety precautions



Blended Learning

50% remote learning & 50%
face to face with students
into 2 groups on alternate
day rotation



Full Remote Learning

On a normal school day
schedule



Dear Parents,

I am delighted to connect with you at this time when we understand how critical it is for you as parents to hear about your children's learning plans for next year.

First, I would like to confidently confirm that all sections of our schools are set to welcome our precious students on the scheduled **start date of the 6th of September**, as per our British schools calendar.

With great plans in place, I am proud to assure you that we are ready to provide our wonderful students and loyal parents with the highest standards of educational provision, **whatever the scenario, next academic year.**

We are fortunate that we have been able to leverage the successful remote learning experience we had for the last term using our exclusive educational technologies, delivering quality virtual learning material to our students and supporting them in achieving the best results in the end of year assessments.

We are also building on the experience and expertise of our dedicated and highly competent team in Egypt as well as the previous experiences of GEMS schools to ensure the optimal readiness of all resources.

I am glad to share the following updates on our exciting plans and enhancements in key areas, by which you will feel that we are in a strong position for the start of the new academic year in spite of the unprecedented period that we have all just been through.

LEARNING FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR– SCHOOL DAY

We have our students' best interests at the heart. Hence, we have worked on a detailed plan for the blended learning scenario to combine the best of face to face and remote learning approaches for an optimised outcome on our students' educational experience. However, we are fully ready for any other scenario subject to health and safety measures, and direction from authorities.

BLENDLED LEARNING

Students of Pre-School to Year9

Students will be split into 2 groups where only 50% of students attending face to face classes in a day, maintaining the appropriate social distancing measures- Maximum 13 students. Each group will attend on alternate day rotation. The mix of face to face physical attendance at school, with the enhanced remote learning will ensure the coverage of all subjects as well as written materials, assignments, enrichment programmes and activities.

Our remote learning model will be significantly enhanced with the the updated

VLE (Phoenix V2)to include a rich learning material and resources, live sessions, pre recorded videos, assessments, activities and much more!

Students of Year10 to Year12 Full school day on a daily basis.



FULL RETURN TO SCHOOL

We have already started a full programme of summer works in both schools. Our campuses are now in the best shape to receive our students, staff and parents. Children from **Pre-School to Year12** will attend at school on a normal school day with enhanced student life at the highest health and safety measures in place.

FULL REMOTE LEARNING

In the unlikely event, that all schools are instructed by the Ministry of Education to maintain full remote -learning at the start of, or at any time during the course of, the next academic year, we are ready to implement our enhanced remote -learning model (as outlined in the blended scenario), with full live lessons for all students from **pre-school to Year 12**, based upon our normal school day schedule.

We are truly proud of what we have achieved with our students during the unprecedented times of the term 3 remote learning experience.

	 Group 1 Students	 Group 2 Students
Week A	Face to Face Sunday Tuesday Thursday	Remote Learning Monday Wednesday
Week B	Remote Learning Monday Wednesday	Face to Face Sunday Tuesday Thursday



We are working closely with The Ministry of Education to adjust and update our plans accordingly in the best interests of our students

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS

We have been working diligently keeping our promise of providing top-quality teachers for next academic year through using the most prestigious recruitment portal (TES). And I can confirm that BISM and TBS are now fully staffed for the new academic year. We are confident we have secured some of the most qualified and experienced teachers for our schools.

We will be soon sharing their strong biographies with our enrolled parents!



TEACHER ASSISTANTS' QUALITY (TAs)

We have carried out a full review of role and structure of the Teaching Assistants (TAs) to ensure they are utilised effectively to provide valuable learning experience for our students.

We have also conducted a thorough review and evaluation process for our current staff followed by a full training and professional development plan for the returning and new TAs.

TRAINING AND READINESS OF TEACHERS

Our hiring strategy for this year was extremely optimised and enhanced to ensure the provision of quality teachers and the supporting tools that guarantee an exceptionally satisfying experience for our students and their valued parents.

- Hiring 2 months early as compared to previous years
- Plan for comprehensive staff orientation and professional development programme for both new and returning teachers
- Early return of all teachers (Aug 16th) to provide a good 3 weeks preparation with the TAs before term starts for detailed curriculum planning, uploading of all VLE material for remote learning and full readiness to welcome our dear students in the best form!
- **Dedicated professional development sessions** for teachers on important topics to provide professional support to enhance academic excellence:
 - Child safeguarding
 - Early Years Foundation Stage best practices from the Centre for Excellence in the UK
 - Revised Health and Safety protocols
 - Enhanced Remote Learning- Phoenix Classroom V2

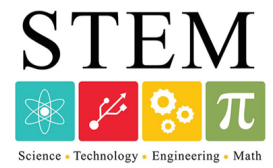


Parents will be engaged physically or virtually during this time with teachers to learn more about some of the best practice that our teachers will be implementing in the classrooms

INNOVATION AND LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

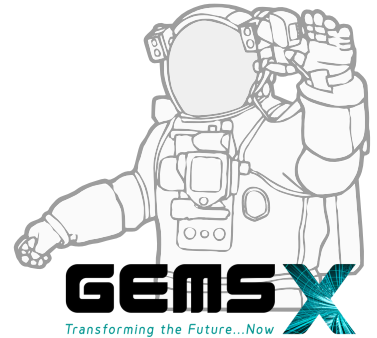
STEM Lab programme

Our Pilot programme was a great success for the first year, hence we will continue providing the highest standards of STEM education for a larger student group with more STEM- QUALITY TIME allowing parents to get closely involved in their children's hands-on learning.



Global Future Curriculum (GFC)

Our exclusive curriculum that is co- created by GEMS innovation leads & Singularity University, will be introduced for the first time in Egypt allowing our students to learn and understand the exponential, future- based technologies to help them get prepared and succeed in their future careers a rapidly changing world.



There will be a focus on Genetics, Nanotechnology, Robotics, Quantum Computing, Augmented and Virtual Reality, 3 D printing, Brain mapping and brain scanning, Sensors, and more..

VR (Virtual Reality) and AR (Augmented Reality) Technologies

Starting next year, we will be the first school to implement VR and AR technologies in learning with exclusive VR-X One kits.



We will also focus on enhancing the use of technology in the classroom, through pilot programmes for students **bringing their own device (BYOD) into school.**

Check our next year's technology from the links [VR](#) / [AR](#)

CHARACTER BUILDING

We also realise how community is changing around us creating a necessity for value- based education that focuses on morals, virtues and building balanced citizens for future.

Our revised strategy for next year will include a **Character Building Programme** as part of the curriculum, with a link to the well reputed programme offered by University of Birmingham,



ACCREDITATION

I am also delighted to announce that in addition to being approved examination centres for Edexcel, Cambridge, and Oxford AQA, we have also submitted both British schools' applications for the following reputable accreditation in support of all the ongoing developments on academic, student well-being and operational levels:

- **CIS**- Council of International Schools with a full membership visit scheduled for Sep2020
- **BSME**- British Schools of Middle East which emphasises on students wellbeing as a key part of quality education in addition to the strengthening of the British Curriculum

The most prestigious sports Accreditation in the World

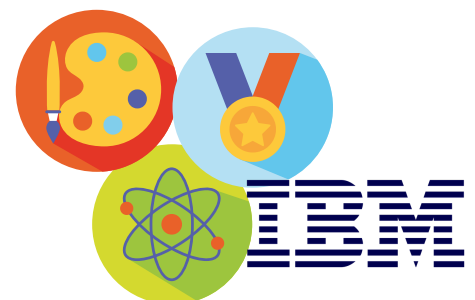
- **WAoS**- World Academy of Sports- for BISM to be the first school in Egypt accredited as an Athlete Friendly Accreditation Centre providing exceptionally premium sports facilities and support for our talented athletes to balance academics and training,



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Enhancing student life through developing our Extra-Curricular programme, particularly for Secondary students through an exciting and dynamic range of enrichment activities.

Sports, Performances, Debating, Technology, STEM, Internship Programmes, BOOT Camps, etc...



HEALTH AND SAFETY

We will always place the health and safety of your children as our number one priority and, we also have in place a full covid-19 secure health and safety plan for both campus premises and school transportation.

We can assure you that our plan is based upon the highest international standards and in line with the recommendations from GEMS Dubai.

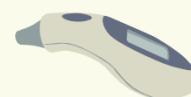
CAMPUS PREMISES



All GEMS employees to wear personnel protective equipment that is relevant to their job hazard



Hand Sanitiser Dispensers are available in all high traffic points at schools



Temperature checking at entry gates



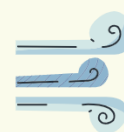
Social distancing in :
Classrooms
Canteen areas
Corridors
Large assembly areas



Deep-cleaning, disinfection and sanitisation of frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, taps, sinks, etc.



Upgraded clinics and isolation rooms



Ensure natural and direct ventilation

TRANSPORTATION



Driver & matron to wear personnel protective equipment



Temperature-Checking at entrance points as a first point of control



Cleaning High-Touch Surfaces in the bus before trip



Hand sanitiser is provided and to be used by matron after assisting the child to their seat. As a first layer of control.

We will be sharing with you the details of all the revised procedures before the start of the academic year.

FACILITIES AND PREMISES

Our provision for next year will be enhanced by a significant investment on facilities and premises with complete focus on enabling **Learning and Teaching and Health and Safety**.

TBS

- Learning Resources Centre (Library),
 - New Classrooms
 - Upgraded Main Hall,
 - Multi- Activities Rooms,
 - Refurbished Bathrooms,
 - Additional Bathrooms
 - EYFS Shades
- And many other developments..

BISM

- Learning Resources Centre (Library),
- Refurbished Classrooms
- ICT Laboratory,
- Multi- Activities Rooms,
- Playing Fields,
- Renovated Small Hall,
- Upgraded clinic,
- Upgraded Change Rooms,
- EYFS Shade
- And other developments..

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR YOUNG LEADERS' SUCCESS!

It would be remiss of me in this letter, not to congratulate our Year 12 students upon the completion of their secondary education!

Our wonderful students have been offered places at the best and most competitive universities in Egypt, Europe, Canada and the UK, including top Russell Group institutions, such as University College London, Imperial College London, the 9th highest ranked university in the world!



KING'S
College
LONDON



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



Imperial College
London



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



Queen Mary
University of London

Their outstanding achievements combined with the great efforts of our secondary teachers have raised the bar and we will never settle for less with our senior students in the future.

A number of exclusive opportunities and great plans are waiting for our senior students in the next academic year.

Stay tuned for further details on our graduation ceremony of both schools on Saturday September 5th, 2020

OUR CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP AND COMMITMENT

Finally, I would like to reiterate that all the mentioned plans and accomplishments could have never been achieved without the exceptional collaboration between both our education and operation teams, and more importantly, the great support of our parents.

We truly care and value your commitment to your children's education during this challenging period. Therefore, we are also committed to supporting your efforts with a number of solutions providing support to enhance and sustain your quality educational experience through a variety of financial services.



Whether you are looking for **facilitated payment plans**, **financial rewarding** or **convenient payment options**, our variety of services will always include what you are looking for. We are also working on further facilitation solution to provide even more convenience with easy-to meet requirements in order to cater for a wider group of our parent community.

Please connect with our Parent Relations Executives (PREs) should you need to get more information about our financial facilitation services and convenient payment solutions.

We will be in touch regularly over the coming weeks with our enrolled parents, with detailed information on all the above planning for what promises to be a fantastic and exciting year ahead of top-quality learning at our GEMS Egypt schools.

Stay Safe,

Stuart Bryan
VP Education- GEMS Education, Egypt