



Dear Parents, Learners and Staff

Amongst many questions and uncertainty we have to welcome back to Swartland High School the first group of learners on Monday, 1 June 2020. We can assure you that we have done everything in our power to ensure that we adhere to all the necessary health and safety procedures. We can further pledge that we are as ready as we can be. We also want to express our appreciation to Mr Schoonraad and his team for their hard work during the preparations for the safety of our children and staff, as well as their on-going academic support and lessons so that the school year can be salvaged.

Parents, we understand that you have many questions and uncertainty concerning the 'how' and 'what' of the sanitising and cleaning of our school terrain. It is not practically possible to set out everything in this letter, but your children will be thoroughly briefed before Monday so that each learner will understand and know exactly what is expected of him/her. We request that parents strengthen our hands concerning these regulations. You will have to make sure that your child understands the importance of strict discipline during school time for the sake of their own safety. They must understand that in this situation the school can neither tolerate any deviation from nor relax any of the rules re. health and safety. Everything is only for the benefit and safety of your child, fellow-learners and the staff. Furthermore, we request that you will understand and support the need for extremely strict rules regarding entry to the school grounds. Please accept that they might cause frustration. We will not and cannot allow parents and outsiders to enter school grounds, especially not during school hours. The rules regarding these measures will soon be communicated to you.

This brings us to another difficult subject: school fees! We have seen a huge reduction in school fees' payments. Parents, we understand that some of you are in dire financial straits, because of the Covid-19 lockdown, but we also know that parents who receive full salaries have also stopped paying school fees. We want to urge parents to pay their school fees, even if they can only pay part of it. Our school's financial policy has not changed, neither have the rules for payment. The school has not hesitated to spend extra funds in order to procure extra cleaning and sanitation products to supplement those provided by the WCED. This is an investment in your child's safety. The money must come from somewhere. Thus we seriously urge you to pay your school fees on time and put your child's safety and education first. We request those parents who have been placed in a very difficult financial position to contact the school so that alternative measures can be put in place. The school is not unsympathetic and pro-active measures will prevent unpleasantness for you and the school.

We want to conclude by requesting you to trust the management team, staff and governing body during this uncertain time. Support them by educating your child re. safety regulations and social distancing. I, personally, shall send my matric child to Swartland High School on Monday with no qualms, because I trust the people at the helm. I ask that you would have the same peace of mind. After all's said and done, it is not in our hands, but in the hands of the One in control of everything. May God protect us and our children during this time.

ROCKIE REGARDS

Chairperson and Governing Body of Swartland High School

