

Dear IB Students and Families,

I hope this email finds you healthy and well during these strange and uncertain times. The IB is publishing almost daily updates of their response to the Covid-19 pandemic and I received this announcement today, which I wanted to share with you all as soon as possible.

The IB exams scheduled for this May will not be held. IB grades will be based on coursework that has either been completed or will be completed in the coming weeks. The IB will post clarifying details on their website by March 27. See attached for the official word from the IB.

While that settles in, it should be strongly pointed out that much of the sweat equity that you students have invested over the last two years will not go to waste because they won't write an exam in May. The skills learned, knowledge gained, and character traits developed during this demanding program will stand our IB class of 2020 in great stead for further education and beyond. I studied for my A-levels in the UK in my teens and still rely on the organizational and time-management skills that were developed during these years, as well as the foundation of biology.

I understand that for some of you this may be a great relief, while for others it will only increase the anxiety currently being experienced. Please be assured that in my experience with the IB they are a fair and ethical organization and they will try to do what is right by each student. VVS teachers will also do what is right and best for their students too; you will hear what that means directly from each teacher early next week.

For now please try to enjoy your extra week of spring break and be ready to come back together for an education unlike any that you've previously experienced when we resume online next week.

Please be in touch if you have any questions.

Andy

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