

10 April 2020

FUTURE NATION SCHOOLS RESPONSE TO THE NATION-WIDE LOCKDOWN EXTENSION

Dear Families of Future Nation Schools

Happy Easter and a blessed long weekend to you, your families and loved ones. As we know, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced the extension of the nation-wide lockdown until the end of April. Details in terms of when the schools will re-open have not yet been provided. We will share information as more details regarding the school calendar become available. We all have to continue to play our part and ensure that coronavirus is eventually overcome by respecting the lockdown regulations and continue to practise good hygiene, wash our hands, maintain social distancing, stay at home and only go out to undertake essential tasks allowed under the State of Disaster Regulations.

Our president has shown exemplary leadership and calls on all of us to care for one another. He also implored all South African citizens to look after the vulnerable and destitute. It is in this regard that I decided to join the Solidarity Fund as a director in charge of fund-raising. The Solidarity Fund has already raised R2bn and deployed most of it in supporting government's efforts to purchase COVID-19 testing kits, ventilators, personal protective equipment and alleviate hunger by providing emergency food relief to vulnerable households. We are targeting to raise R4bn from companies, foundations and individuals. We have already raised funds from more than 4,000 individuals. All financial donations, no matter how small will make a big difference in the fight against coronavirus. You may visit the Solidarity Fund website at <https://www.solidarityfund.co.za> to learn more about it and make a donation.

We must take the nation-wide lockdown, restrictions and advice seriously and act responsibly. Remember that we all have a responsibility not only to ourselves, but also to those within our broader community who are particularly vulnerable to the negative impact of coronavirus.

ONLINE WORK, LEARNING AND TEACHING

Future Nation Schools will continue to offer online learning and teaching during the lockdown and until the schools re-open.

Virtual Classrooms

Due to security concerns with the Zoom application as a communication platform, we have decided to stop using Zoom and migrate all of our virtual classrooms and digital communication to Microsoft Teams. Security is of the utmost importance, especially to avoid any possibility of unsuitable material infiltrating our learning and teaching from outside sources. We apologise for the inconvenience caused.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all the parents and students who have supported the learning and teaching through connection with various means of interactive classes and submitting the required assessments. However, we continue to have students who are not active in their learning (i.e. not joining the virtual classrooms, nor submitting the required work). As a school we hereby wish to request that all parents be involved in the virtual lessons and check that their children submit the required work.

Following the extension of the lockdown until end of April, the teachers will share a revised timetable for the assessments that the students will be required to submit. These assessments will contribute towards the term marks; therefore, it is compulsory for every student to submit the required work. Our teachers will increase the content of learning and teaching materials sent and the use of virtual classrooms in the next coming weeks. I would like to plead with our parents to support their children in joining and meaningfully participating in the virtual classrooms.

We will remain in touch if there are any major developments during the nation-wide lockdown.

Best wishes and keep safe.

Sizwe Nxasana
CEO and Founder – Sifiso Learning Group and Future Nation Schools

For the latest information relating to how we are managing the COVID-19 outbreak and the mitigation of actions taken to reduce risk of infection please go to www.futurenaionschool.com