



March 22, 2020 – International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization Statement on COVID-19 Impact

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

We know that you are concerned about how Pearson students may be affected by decisions made by the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization in light of the worldwide impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We can tell you tonight that IB shared a statement, shown immediately below, announcing that IB final written examinations have been cancelled for all IB Diploma candidates.

Here is the text of the IB statement:

The International Baccalaureate Organization has announced that the May examinations for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme will not be held this year due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.

As an organization, it is critical for the IB to ensure that the options it provides its global community of IB World Schools are based on compassion and fairness for the difficult circumstances that its students and educators are experiencing. As a result, based on considerable advice from stakeholders across the globe, including schools, students, universities and official bodies, the IB has determined what it believes to be the most responsible and ethical way forward.

*The May 2020 examinations as scheduled between 30 April and 22 May for Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme candidates **will no longer be held.***

Depending on what they registered for, the student will be awarded a Diploma or a Course Certificate which reflects their standard of work. This is based on student's coursework and the established assessment expertise, rigor and quality control already built into the programmes.*

We know parents and students will have many questions. (The IB) will share full details and FAQs...by 27 March 2020.

(*Please note that Pearson students on an IB track register for the **Diploma** Program.)

As you will note, this is a preliminary statement from the IB which does not provide all the answers sought by students, their families and by Pearson, other UWC colleges and IB schools. In this regard we can anticipate full details and FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) no later than this Friday, 27 March on their [website](#).

At Pearson, online learning and courses will continue to be delivered, as communicated earlier. It is important that teaching and learning for our students continue so that they can complete the school year and their IB components, establishing a strong foundation for their future.

Thank you for your patience and understanding on this matter. Students, please watch your mailboxes for further updates from the College and directly from the IB and check the IB website regularly. We will share any updates we receive with you as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ty Pile', written over a horizontal line.

Ty Pile
President and Head of College