



International School Bangkok

Information about COVID-19: Weekly Update (Communication 37)

Dear ISB Community,

Thank you to the parents that joined the Board of Trustees Webinar on Tuesday night. Given the various questions about when ISB might be able to open, and what safety measures will be in place when we do, we have shared more information about our current situation below.

When might ISB be able to open?

We do not know yet when international schools will be able to open. We remain in regular contact with both the Minister of Education and the Governor of Nonthaburi and will update the community as soon as we know more.

Currently in Nonthaburi province, we are required under the State of Emergency provisions to remain closed until at least April 30 and provide online learning. We are awaiting official confirmation, but we do expect a further extension of the state of emergency and notification that international schools in Nonthaburi will remain closed throughout May.

When permission does come to open regular school, ISB will only open if we believe it is safe to do so. The Board of Trustees will make the final decision as to whether ISB can open based on prevailing factors at the time.

We have been preparing for the safe opening of school with the help of safety experts in Bangkok and overseas. The safety plan includes aspects such as maintaining appropriate distancing, temperature checks, campus entrance procedures, mask and hygiene requirements, safety education, maximum numbers per class, pre-screening of families, cleaning & disinfecting, allowable activities, transportation related measures etc. Once finalised, the safety plans will be shared with the ISB community.

Scenario Planning

Given the uncertain situation we are planning for a number of possibilities:

- ISB continues to provide Virtual School for the remainder of this semester
- ISB is able to open for on campus learning to some or all students this semester with appropriate safety measures in place



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- ISB is able to open for on campus learning to some or all students next semester as scheduled on 10th August with appropriate safety measures in place
- ISB opens virtually as scheduled on 10th August and provides online learning
- ISB is able to open physically to some or all students in September or October with appropriate safety measures in place and an adjusted calendar

We know that once ISB opens there will be varying levels of comfort regarding children attending school. For parents that decide to keep their children at home we will offer home learning as well.

Webinar with ISB Administration Monday 27th April at 11:00am

Please be reminded that we will have our second webinar Q&A with the ISB Administration at 11:00am on Monday 27th April.

This webinar provides an opportunity for parents to hear from ISB's Administration through a Q&A format. You can access from phone, iPad or computer. To join, you will need to register - please click [here](#).

You will be able to type your questions live into the Q&A function and we will do our best to answer as many as possible.

Summer Travel

With seven weeks to go until the summer vacation we are advising parents to think carefully about potential overseas travel when the current situation is considered:

- Very few flights are arriving in Thailand and most are repatriating host nationals
- Very few flights are departing Thailand
- There is currently a requirement for a 14-day quarantine in a government provided facility for all family members
- Dependents of those with work permits and related visas are not able to enter Thailand at this time

If ISB families do travel overseas, we suggest that plans and tickets are as flexible as possible and that all immigration documents are in order.



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Summer School

We will be offering an optional two-week summer school program at no cost to parents. This will be provided either virtually or on campus - depending on whether or not international schools are allowed (and it is safe) to physically reopen. We are provisionally planning for a virtual summer school from Monday, June 22 to Friday, July 3, 2020. More details about course offerings and registration will come next week.

Important Reminders

- Should someone in your household (or someone you have come into close contact with) test positive for COVID-19, please notify the school immediately
- Should your family choose to temporarily leave Thailand, we ask that you complete the survey that is linked in the Parent Portal.
- This is a reminder that we have a responsibility to fellow members of our ISB, Nichada and global community to practice [social and physical distancing](#) at this time.
- In these difficult times please know that our teachers, administrators, counselors and psychologists are here to support you.

Kind regards,

Andy

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Counselors and School Psychologists



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