

Parent Questions 17th April 2018

Starting date of next year declared by Ministry of education to be on 2nd of Sep for all schools in Oman, while at HASIS will start after two weeks of that date, this gap of two weeks may impact the 1st semester academic duration of if we consider the other facts (management of change ex. teachers, which in my opinion they supposed to spend more time with students & build a relation, having initial revisions with students to have better understating on their capabilities and challenges of individuals in order to have journey plan with students for better results at end of academic.

There has been some confusion with regard to the communication of the starting date for the new Academic Year. We will be starting around the same time as other International schools. We are waiting for the Ministry to approve our calendar plans. As soon as we have this back it will be communicated to you all as this is very important information.

2- To consider having a special open days for grade 12 student with their teachers prior to start the new year academic, to know each other's & even to start a revisions from 2nd of Sep parallel with academic year of the Ministry of education.

I agree that this is something that we need to do and I am planning opportunities for all students and staff to interact prior to lessons starting so that everyone can develop relationships. We are also planning comprehensive handover documentation for each class and student so that everything is accounted for in the academic picture for each child.

3- I strongly support single-sex education classes after grade 5 as a majority concern of HASIS parents, . I think this is essential to give our children in both genders the space to develop normally and enjoy their personal and social unique characteristics with their sex mates (i.e. Girls together and boys together). Especially at this, stage of life where variations become obvious among both sex in terms of their interest in learning/teaching skills and subjects; their level of academic achievements; and feeling of pressure to impress another gender and this was seen with previous statistic of HASIS management when they changes from mixed to single gender classes education (performance of students/their participations at classroom, build the trust, focus on teachers...etc). we will recommend HASIS to have their international statistic based on best practice as a mirror practices at the best International Schools over the word not only in Oman and other GCC countries such as Australia, New Zealand and Ireland, continue to hold a respectable number of single-gender schools!

We are aligned with regard to our desire to ensure that we are a leading international school and the intentions for OLNG is that we secure this with the most appropriate practices for our school. It is clear that this is a contentious issue and something that will divide opinion. This is not unique to HASIS but in fact any school where there is mixed or single gender classes across the World. What is important is that the board and school leaders provide a model that is best suited to the needs of the school and the children and the curriculum that it offers.