



**3 June 2020**

Dear Parents and Students in DP1,

**English A: Language and Literature Individual Orals - Important Update**

We have received, subsequent to yesterday's letter, an important accommodation regarding the conduct of the individual orals for our DP1 class. We have switched the venues for the orals to larger rooms to ensure more than sufficient distancing between student and teacher. We have been given permission, given the size of the room and the distance between people, to allow students to perform the oral without wearing a mask. Please note that this is optional and not mandatory. Students are still welcome to wear a mask should they prefer to do so. Teachers will continue to wear masks for the duration of the assessment.

We met with the IB Coordinators of other schools yesterday to share best practice and strategies for managing these complicated times. Like us, most are conducting assessments in these final weeks of school. In the discussions yesterday we learned that the individual oral has already been completed by some other international schools here in Singapore. We have had feedback from our colleagues that wearing a face shield is an effective alternative to a mask for the oral. We encourage students who would prefer to wear a mask during the oral to experiment with the type of mask that will allow them to express themselves most clearly. Many people find the surgical type mask is better in this regard. Students may also choose to wear a face shield in place of a mask.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any clarification.

Sincerely,

**Iain Hudson**

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