

Dear boarding school students and parents,

We have made this section to post the information, we send to the students, to keep you parents informed about the actual status at the boarding school. IB-coordinator Morten Rødgaard Jensen will also post actual information regarding the IB Diploma Programme.

The students have to keep updated on Lectio. They receive information related to the March 23, 2020 virtual teaching on that platform.

Information about the general situation in Denmark are found on this web site from the Danish Police: Information from the Danish authorities about coronavirus/covid-19

Kindly regards,

Mads Brinkmann Pedersen
Principal

Morten Rødgaard Jensen
IB-Coordinator

Information about the boarding school:

11.03.20 21.59 – the Danish government shuts down all schools

The Danish government closes all high schools from now. This step is to prevent the disease from spreading to fast. It means that you have no classes from this point and the next 14 days.

I will meet with Kirsten and Morten tomorrow morning at 8.00. Afterwards we will inform you, what to do. Thursday and Friday will be as normal, when it comes to food and so on.

12.03.20 – Boarding School informations

Dear students at the boarding school

All students whose parents live in Denmark we recommend to go home to their parents no later than tomorrow evening. Moreover, we recommend that all other students who have a chance to stay with people they know in Denmark do so.

International boarding school students who do not have family or friends living in



Denmark, we strongly recommended to stay at the boarding school.

If you choose to leave the boarding school, you are, not allowed to return before March 29, unless there are special circumstances.

I would like EVERYBODY to report to Kirsten no later than 12 noon today to inform us about your plans. Life at the boarding school will continue as normal between the 14th and the 29th of March. Like everybody else in Denmark, you must take precautions. Thus, the following applies:

- Mind your school (stay updated via Lectio) - Stay at the boarding school as much as possible - Do NOT go out at night to party - You are allowed to shop as usual - You are allowed to visit each other and socialize at the boarding school - Contact staff on duty, as you would always do, if you get sick

The boarding school will continue life as normal concerning food, supervision and cleaning from now until March 30 when we open up the school again.

Moreover, remember that the Danish government has taken this major step as a matter of precaution. We have to take care of those who are vulnerable and weak, in Denmark and in the rest of the world, who would be very sick if infected.

Everything is going to be all right!

Keep a daily eye on Lectio where we will keep you posted on developments.

13.03.20 – Update on Boarding School rules

Hi Boarding school students,

I have just read in the daily paper, that the number of infected people in West Jutland is 19 out of a population of 429.211. That is 0,004%. Although I have decided to close the fitness room, the gaming room and the music room. I am not sure that you can handle the cleaning of weight and so on.

We have also changed the way we eat together in the dining room. No salt and pepper on the tables and we have removed every second chair to keep a good distance between you.

Compared with the numbers I just mentioned, it might seem hysterical, but in these days that is my middle name.

Remember: No guest at the boarding school the gym will be open every day after 15.00. Please do not eat, drink or leave any trash in the gym at the school (Hallen).

16.03.20 – Link to information about the status in Denmark

Hi Boarding School Students,

to all of you in Struer and elsewhere. Please make sure to pass on the information about the boarding school and the school to your parents.

Today we have posted a link to the Danish police. This page contains all relevant information about the actual status in Denmark and it is translated into English. The link is to be found here at the bottom and on our Facebook-page.

As of tomorrow, it will be at our web site as well.

https://politi.dk/en/corona-virus-covid-19-in-denmark?fbclid=IwAR0BTnHmBp8Gxmit_7CuGIK9cwSYpF_ITd5CwVJj9cgwFpsUj774JaT3R0

Today I met with Vlad and Janis to be interviewed to a documentary on boarding school life right now. The documentary will be posted, on the boarding school Facebook page Tuesday or Wednesday, Stay tuned. Please, do not hesitate to ask Morten, Kirsten or me any question that you might have. We cannot answer everything, but we will do our best.

17.03.20 – Closed Borders

Closed borders – Boarding school open during Easter Holiday

The Danish authorities have announced that from Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 12 noon the Danish borders have been closed until Monday April 13, 2020. Based on the actions taken by the Danish authorities, we have decided to keep the boarding school open during the Easter holiday/spring break for those of you already staying at the boarding school.

Travelling during the Easter Holiday If you choose to travel abroad and leave the boarding school, it is against the guidelines of the Danish authorities.

You cannot return to Denmark - until the school opens again.

Returning to Denmark (for students who have already left or are planning to leave Denmark): When the school opens again, all students can cross the Danish border, because they have a purpose of doing so. We will provide you with the relevant documentation.

Returning to the boarding school (for students who have already left or are planning to leave the boarding school): For students who have left the boarding school, it will not be possible to return to the boarding school until the school opens again.

As things are now, you will have to abide by the 14-day quarantine in Denmark, before you can go back to boarding school and start school again according to the guidelines of the Danish authorities. We will naturally keep you informed,

18.03.20 – new restrictions

New restrictions from the Danish government:

As of 10 o'clock today, people should not meet in groups larger than 10 persons. All restaurants, hairdressers, cafés, dentists and tattoo shops must close until the 30 of March. The food stores and other shops will be open, and they will take the necessary precautions.

This new step should not be seen as a sign, that things are getting out of hand. The Danish government chooses to take the necessary steps to make the Danish population change their behavior.

Yesterday evening the Danish Queen gave a short speech with the clear message, that we all must restrict our natural wish to be together by keeping a distance. That is how we show real solidarity.

We have already yesterday taken some new steps at the boarding school regarding eating together as you experienced yesterday. We are well ahead with our temporary rules and guidelines, but please remember the following ones:

This means for the boarding school:

- No guests from outside.
- When you leave to get some fresh air – keep a distance to others.
- Follow the guidelines at the shops: clean your hands at the entrance and keep a distance of 1,5 meters. The shop owners will guide you.
- Stay at the boarding school – do not go elsewhere to visit people.

It will still be okay to play games, to read books together, to watch a movie together. But don't sit on top of each other.

Remember to take care of each other and follow the guidelines of good behavior from the blue posters.

The staff has been informed to stay at home, if they have the slightest cold!

23.03.20 - Boarding School and cancellation of IB-exams

Dear students!

Morten informs you about the latest news from IBO. Exams have been cancelled this year.

It does not change things at the boarding school. All students are still welcome to stay until the summer break, and the boarding school stays open – also in the Easter break as already mentioned.

Here you can see a news flash on "The Corona Chronicles" made by Vlad and Janis. A local tv-station saw it on Facebook and made an interview. It begins 8.24. Great job, Vlad and Janis!

The interview with the students is in English.

<https://www.tvmidtvest.dk/nyheder/21-03-2020/1930/1930-21mar-2020?autoplay=1#player>

Kind regards,

Mads Brinkmann Pedersen
Principal

Information about the IB-Programme:

16.03.20 – Information to the students

Dear all Pre-IB students,

The school is closed for the next two weeks. We do not know if the closure will be extended, so for now it is important that you open Lectio every day to read messages from me or your teachers. Classes for the next two weeks are "virtual". This means that your lessons will be taught in alternative ways and you are responsible for keeping up with homework and assignments. Teachers will give you instructions in Lectio and you are welcome to communicate with your teachers to follow up. This is obviously not an ideal situation but we must try to make the best of it and hope that we will be back to normal routines soon. Until then, we continue our work and try to make the best of a surreal situation. Stay at home and stay healthy - in other words, follow the instructions from the authorities!

Dear all 1i students,

The school is closed for the next two weeks. We do not know if the closure will be extended, so for now it is important that you open Lectio every day to read messages from me or your teachers. Classes for the next two weeks are "virtual". This means that

your lessons will be taught in alternative ways and you are responsible for keeping up with homework and assignments. Teachers will give you instructions in Lectio and you are welcome to communicate with your teachers to follow up. This is obviously not an ideal situation but we must try to make the best of it and hope that we will be back to normal routines soon. Until then, we continue our work and try to make the best of a surreal situation. I will follow up on the immediate issues in the near future (study trip, Extended Essay etc.). Stay at home and stay healthy - in other words, follow the instructions from the authorities!

Dear all 2i students,

The school is closed for the next two weeks. We do not know if the closure will be extended, so for now it is important that you open Lectio every day to read messages from me or your teachers. Classes for the next two weeks are "virtual". This means that your lessons will be taught in alternative ways and you are responsible for keeping up with homework and assignments. Teachers will give you instructions in Lectio and you are welcome to communicate with your teachers in order to prepare yourselves for the upcoming exams. This is obviously not an ideal situation but we must try to make the best of it and hope that we will be back to normal routines soon. Until then, we continue our work and I will proceed with uploads to the IB according to the original deadlines. Stay at home and stay healthy - in other words, follow the instructions from the authorities!

March 18, 2020 17.03.20 – Students, staff, parents

IB at Struer Statsgymnasium updates 17 March

Below I will give an outline of the current status for what we know and how we will respond in Pre-IB, DP1 and DP2 during the Corona virus/COVID19 pandemic. I hope this update will give an overview of the situation as we see it today and with the available information that we have. New developments might of course change the situation, and in that case, we will keep you updated. General information will continue to be sent from our principal and others, and information will be posted on our website. [Skriv tekst]

Furthermore, you can read about the IB's handling of the situation here: <https://ibo.org/news/newsabout-the-ib/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/>.

What is the current status?

Teaching at Struer Statsgymnasium

For all of our educational programmes, the teaching at Struer Statsgymnasium has switched to virtual teaching, and this means that all students must still go to school online from their home/the boarding school. Information on the virtual teaching was sent to all students and teachers Thursday 12 March, and all students were instructed to

check their schedule in Lectio on a daily basis, preferably several times a day. It is important that all students remain active in their learning process, and we are trying our best to provide teaching during this period.

The boarding school

We have made plans for the boarding school to remain open, also during the Easter Break, so none of the boarders or their parents need to be concerned about this. Full service in terms of supervision, food, etc. will be maintained.

Information for Pre-IB, 1i and 2i students

Pre-IB

Teaching and boarding continue as described above. A number of activities are planned in late May and June after regular teaching ends, including the mini Extended Essay (**mini-EE**) and end-of-year tests in Mathematics, natural sciences and English. Whether these activities will run as planned will depend on how the situation develops, but Pre-IB students should assume that all end-of-year activities will proceed as planned. A potential cancellation of these activities will not affect promotion to 1i/DP1.

DP1/1i

Teaching and boarding continue as described above. A number of activities are planned in April, May and June after regular teaching ends:

- **The study trip** is expected to be cancelled. We know that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recommends that all non-essential travels to Ireland are suspended currently. We are waiting for the travel agency to give us further information.
- **TOK** presentations will run as planned. MPI and JDE will give instructions on how the presentations will be conducted. Make sure to read all information coming up on Lectio and make sure to communicate any technical challenges.
- **The Group 4 project** will be postponed until further notice. The Group 4 project requires access to labs.
- **IA work** will be running according to individual subject teachers' planning. Again, keep yourselves informed on Lectio.
- **Mock exams** will be running according to the calendar unless the situation changes.
- **EE planning and EE days** will be running as planned. MPI will make sure to communicate your choice of subjects to teachers and first interactions and reflections can take place when students have received their supervisors. Communication between students and teachers can be virtual and you can use various platforms for these meetings (Skype, WhatsApp, Microsoft Teams etc.).

In short, most of the activities mentioned above are expected to run as planned.

However, we will make adjustments depending on how the situation develops. A potential cancellation of these activities will not affect promotion to 2i/DP2, and we would then reschedule some activities in the autumn.

2i/DP2

Teaching and boarding continue as described above. The IB has implemented a number of procedures to support the May 2020 exams, but they also clearly state that it is not possible to change the May 2020 exam schedule. There are many valid reasons for this, as mentioned on their website (<https://ibo.org/news/news-about-the-ib/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/>). Waiting for a later exam is in my opinion a poor choice. For now, we have to wait and see what the IB has to say about the written examinations, because everything else, we can take care of:

- All early components (TOK, EE, WT's etc.) have been uploaded on time

- All PG's, IA marks and IA work can be submitted within the original deadline. As you can see, the IB has postponed deadlines for several components but I insist on sticking to the original deadlines so as not to potentially delay your results.

Most subjects have completed IA work. In the next days, I will get a full picture of all subjects and report to individual students if necessary. In the meantime, your job will be to confirm with your subject teachers that your IA's have been submitted and checked for plagiarism. This does not apply to subjects in Group 1 and Group 2, which have all been completed.

Self-taught oral exams:

For now, we are postponing the exams until the school is expected to open. I am planning for these exams to be held the week after the Easter holidays, given that the school is open and students are back. Alternatively, OCT and I will contact you to organize individual video conferences. That way we will be able to record your examinations according to IB guidelines without you actually being back in Struer.

Written exams in May 2020:

Given that the school is open (we very much expect it to be), students who have returned to their home countries are allowed entry back to Denmark. The fact that borders are closed for all non-essential traffic does NOT affect students who have exams. This has been confirmed by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and by the police authorities. This obviously applies to all Danish schools offering the IB DP.

We are all working hard to make this work, but I am looking forward to the return to business as usual. Until then, take care, stay healthy and listen to the advice by the authorities.

IB at Struer Statsgymnasium updates 20 March

The IB is in contact with schools around the world that have been affected by the COVID-19 situation. The IB is also in contact with universities and other higher education institutions to find the best solution to students who are now in the process of

applying for higher education. The IB will be providing a decision on the May 2020 examination session no later than 27 March 2020.

Until then, it is business as usual.

At Struer Statsgymnasium, we will continue to follow the original deadlines that have been set internally at the school and which have been set by the IB (except for the SSST oral exams). We do this in order to prevent any possible delays in results for our students in 2i/DP2. This means that all IA's are to be ready for submission by the end of March. Teachers need time to mark and comment on student IA's and when that work is over, the DP coordinator will submit IA's to the IB.

Below I will give another update on the situation in Pre-IB, 1i/DP1 and 2i/DP2.

Teaching at Struer Statsgymnasium

Teaching continues to be virtual at Struer Statsgymnasium for all of our students, both for those in the Danish national curriculum programmes and for the students in the international programme. We know that the situation is not ideal and I am sure that most teachers and students are hoping to get back to face-to-face instruction very soon. Until then, we have to make the best of it. We ask of students to keep up with instructions on Lectio and to submit work as already planned. We have an understanding that teachers and students should be able to communicate about assignments and "class" work. Teachers are doing the best they can to make lessons focused, relevant and instructive. We expect students to remain open-minded, inquiring and principled.

The boarding school

There are no changes to the previous statement about the boarding school. It remains open, also during the Easter Break.

Information for Pre-IB, 1i and 2i students

Pre-IB

Teaching and boarding continue as described above. In the coming week (Wednesday to Friday) you are going to be introduced to the Mini Extended Essay. There will be different resources available on Lectio and there will be instructions on what we expect you to be able to complete inside the three days. One resource available will be EBSCO, which offers library resources in English. You will be getting instructions on how to access this resource from home. By the end of the three days our ambition is that you have found a subject, confirmed a research question and started initial research. I would like to reiterate that Pre-IB students should assume that all end-of-year activities will proceed as planned. A potential cancellation of these activities will not affect promotion to 1i/DP1.

DP1/1i

Teaching and boarding continue as described above. Some of the information below will be information given to you already 17 March. You should still read the information as there are a few extra comments to some of the bullets, especially concerning the

Extended Essay:

- **The study trip** is expected to be cancelled. We know that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recommends that all non-essential travels to Ireland are suspended currently. We are still waiting for the travel agency to give us further information.
- **TOK presentations** will run as planned. MPI and JDE will give instructions on how the presentations will be conducted. Make sure to read all information coming up on Lectio and make sure to communicate any technical challenges.
- **The Group 4 project** will be postponed until further notice. The Group 4 project requires access to labs.
- **IA work** will be running according to individual subject teachers' planning. Again, keep yourselves informed on Lectio.
- **Mock exams** will be running according to the calendar unless the situation changes.
- **EE planning and EE days** will be running as planned. MPI will make sure to communicate your choice of subjects to teachers and first interactions and reflections can take place when students have received their supervisors. Communication between students and teachers can be virtual and you can use various platforms for these meetings (Skype, WhatsApp, Microsoft Teams etc.). There are a few of you who have not decided on a subject. IT IS IMPORTANT that you send MPI your choice of subjects now, so that we can begin the supervision process.
- **IF /WHEN the study trip has been cancelled**, I am planning to have you start work on your EE instead. More information will come later.

In short, most of the activities mentioned above are expected to run as planned. However, we will make adjustments depending on how the situation develops. A potential cancellation of these activities will not affect promotion to 2i/DP2, and we would then reschedule some activities in the autumn.

2i/DP2

Teaching and boarding continue as described above. The IB has implemented a number of procedures to support the May 2020 exams and as of now they are investigating how to administer the May 2020 exam session: (<https://ibo.org/news/news-about-the-ib/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/>). For now I will not be speculating on what options the IB will propose on 27 March. Until then it will be business as usual:

- **All PG's, IA marks and IA work** can be submitted within the original deadline. As mentioned on 17 March, I am now getting feedback from teachers regarding IA's, marks and PG's. This will secure on-time upload of your components, which should prevent any potential delays in the issue of results.
- **Self-taught oral exams:** For now, we are postponing the exams until the school is expected to open. I am planning for these exams to be held the week after the Easter holidays, given that the school is open and students are back. Alternatively, OCT and I will contact you to organize individual video conferences. That way we will be able to record your examinations according to IB guidelines without you actually being back in Struer.

- **Written exams in May 2020:** I will return with more information regarding the May 2020 written exams after the IB has decided which options are in play.

23 March 2020 – Important information to parents and students from IBO

To our IB Students and Families,

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 student will have many questions. The IB will share full details and FAQs with us and on their website by 27 March 2020.

For any other questions, please contact Morten Jensen, IB coordinator at Struer Statsgymnasium (mrj@stgym.dk).

Thank you and stay well.

Can't wait to see you again!

Best wishes,

Morten