



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EUROPE WEST DISTRICT
UNIT 28100 BOX 26
APO AE 09714

October 27, 2020

Dear SHAPE American School Complex Staff and Families,

Belgium has tightened its coronavirus restrictions, amid a sharp rise in cases over the past few weeks. In accordance with the most recent Host Nation 7-12 education decree in the Wallonia Province and the SHAPE Elementary School shortage of staff, SHAPE American Schools will begin "*Remote Learning*" for students starting **Wednesday, October, 28-30**, and **November 9-10** for a total of **5 days**. Students will return to school starting **Thursday, November 12**. Teachers will continue to report to the school to conduct their "*Remote Learning*" sessions.

Across Belgium, the one-week half-term starting on November 2 has been extended by three days (until November 11) to help curb the spread of the virus.

Today, the SHAPE American Schools will issue laptops and ensure students can access their teacher's "*Remote Learning*" platforms in Google and/Schoology. Please prepare your child to start their synchronous lessons via computer while at home on **Wednesday, October 28**. Your child's teacher and/or school will send more detailed information pertaining to their class and/or courses today.

We will continue to work with the host nation, installation command, and public health officials to monitor the current Belgium decree and provide updates as necessary. The health and safety of our students, staff, and community continue to be our "Top Priority".

As you are aware COVID cases are spiking once again across Europe. During this much-needed break, please continue to be vigilant following host nation gatherings and social distance guidance. This is NOT the time to relax. Please continue to monitor your family for symptoms of COVID-19. This requires no restriction of movement and merely means increased awareness of any changes to health. Should symptoms develop, the affected person should stay at home and contact the SHAPE COVID-19 Hotline: +32 6532-5336/ DSN 556-5336.

We appreciate what you have done and are doing every day to maintain a safe school during this abnormal time period. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Kent Worford

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Worford", is written over a horizontal line.

Superintendent
Europe West District