Dear Colleague

Cambridge International Examinations, part of the University of Cambridge, operates in more than 160 countries around the world. We take our duties very seriously in ensuring that all the examinations which students take are fair, and all candidates receive a valid result. We also have an obligation to ensure that the qualifications we provide to students are recognised worldwide as fair indicators of students’ achievement.

In our June 2014 examinations, we are aware that the security of examination materials for Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics was breached prior to the examinations being taken in Kuwait. We are investigating the source of this examination leak, which may or may not have originated in Kuwait. It means, unfortunately, that some candidates saw the content of the question papers before they took the examination.

This is a highly regrettable situation. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates and to uphold the credibility of the qualifications they will receive, we require all candidates for the affected examinations in Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics to attend re-sits on Sunday 1 June 2014, with a start time of 10am. We will share full details of the timings for these examinations with schools by Thursday 22 May 2014.

These additional sittings will not be charged for. At the re-sits candidates will take papers of equivalent difficulty to the original papers. Therefore, without any extra preparation, candidates can be expected to perform at the same level as in the original examination.

If any candidate prefers to withdraw from the examination at this stage, a full refund will be provided. Any candidate who prefers not to attend the re-sit in June can retake their examination in November 2014 without additional charge.

Cambridge International Examinations deeply regrets the inconvenience and concern caused to candidates, their families and schools. We are working with our partner, the British Council, and affected schools to deal with this situation in a way which we believe protects the interests of all candidates in Kuwait. Our first priority is to ensure a valid and fair outcome for all Cambridge students. We thank you for your support and cooperation.

Please share this letter and enclosed FAQ with parents of affected candidates. If schools or parents of affected candidates would like to contact Cambridge on this matter our Customer Services team is available 8am–7pm (BST) Monday–Friday at info@cie.org.uk or +44 1223 553554.

Michael O’Sullivan
Chief Executive, Cambridge International Examinations

Yours faithfully

Michael O’Sullivan
Chief Executive, Cambridge International Examinations