

METROPOLE SCHOOL READINESS PLAN



An inspiring and inclusive community hub, leading global citizens

Introduction

We have just completed one of the most challenging academic years in our history, and your unparalleled commitment and cooperation was instrumental in ensuring that our schools delivered quality learning to our students.

Over the summer, GEMS and Metropole in particular has worked extensively with other schools, parent representatives, teachers and federal policymakers to develop guidelines to ensure a safe return to school for our students. These guidelines reflect scientific evidence and international best practices, but more importantly, they are informed by hours of discussions with school leaders, teachers and thousands of responses by parents to surveys conducted by KHDA and Metropole. With these guidelines in place, we are confident that schools will be able to welcome students back for the Academic Year 2020/21.

This guide provides you with essential information to prepare you and your child for their return to school. If you have specific questions or comments, please direct them to your leadership team.

We have produced this School Readiness Plan in accordance with the approved school plan by KHDA and the protocols for the Reopening of Private Schools in Dubai issued by the KHDA. The protocols have been designed to ensure the health and safety of everyone at school when the academic year starts, while giving schools flexibility in implementing them. School Readiness Plans ensure that schools have procedures in place to safeguard the continuity of operations and the safety of everyone in the building.

It is possible that the Protocols for the Reopening of Private Schools in Dubai will change or be added to over the coming months. Therefore, please note that this School Readiness Plan is not a static document and may need to adapt over time to reflect any changes in the school situation or new directions.

No doubt the main question which you have relates to whether or not your son or daughter will be coming to school in August. While you do need to read this complete guide cover to cover to find out the specific details of your child's attendance, please refer to Section G - Education Provision.

Once again, Welcome Back!

#Community

WHAT IS 2019-NOVEL CORONAVIRUS? (2019-nCoV)

Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that can cause respiratory infections in humans.

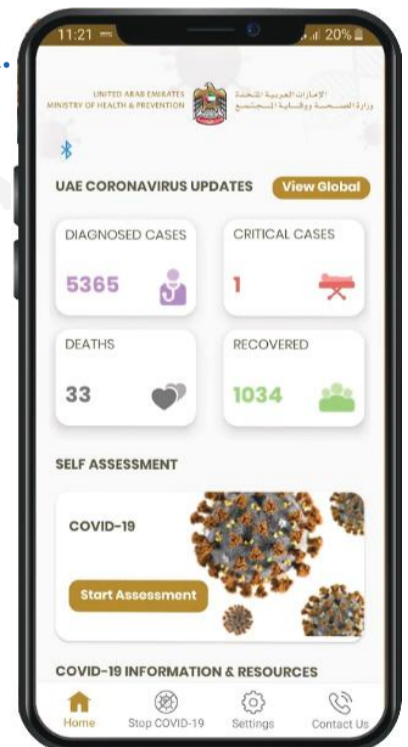
It was first identified in December 2019 in China and has spread rapidly around the world.

Most people who catch COVID-19 only feel mild symptoms, but some can get extremely ill.



DOWNLOAD THE COVID-19 UAE APP

- ✦ All you need to know about the novel coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak.
- ✦ Updated news, statistics and announcements.
- ✦ Awareness information and videos.
- ✦ Virtual Doctor to answer medical questions.
- ✦ Phone number and official resources.
- ✦ Nearest health centers.
- ✦ Information in Arabic, English, Urdu, Farsi and Chinese.



WEBSITE



ANDROID



iOS

YOUR COMMITMENT HELPS TO SLOW THE SPREAD

We can all help by following authorities' recommendations to stay home, avoid crowded places, and follow strict hand hygiene and other essential preventive measures.

1. Entry, Pick Up and School Visit Procedures

A) How the school will scan temperatures of all students and staff entering the school premises or getting onto a school bus.

Parents must check their child's temperature before leaving the house in the morning and a policy of 'staying at home if unwell' for students, teachers or school staff with symptoms will be encouraged. Subsequent to this we will be checking the temperature of all students prior to boarding the school buses using handheld digital infrared temperature guns. We will be logging the temperatures on the bus register and any student with a temperature greater than or equal to 37.5 degrees centigrade will not be allowed to board the bus.

Students who are dropped off at school will pass by one of two thermal scanners at the only two entry points to the school site: Foundation Stage and the Secondary entrance and all other gates will be closed. The class teacher is responsible for referring students with COVID-19 symptoms such as a cough, body aches, fatigue, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, diarrhoea and nausea, and headache, to the school nurse for further screening as per the guidelines.

B) Procedures for entry and exit for student drop off and pick up.

Only students and staff are allowed on the school site, exceptions are made for parents with students in FS1 to Year 3 via the outside exits to classrooms.. Parents and drivers must remain in their cars in the car park. The school gates open at the earlier time of 07.15 to allow all students a more socially distanced entry to the building. At the end of the school day we will operate a staggered departure.

C) Procedures for school deliveries outside of school hours.

Maintenance work by external contractors, as well as deliveries, will be scheduled to happen before 0700 or after 1700 daily. All items will be delivered to the back store car park, which is sealed off from the main school site by an internal fence. No external delivery workers will be allowed onto the school site itself and deliveries will follow a contactless process involving the deposit of items before collection of those items by Metropole staff and the movement of those items into the school site.

1. *Entry, Pick Up and School Visit Procedures*

D) How parents will access the school site.

Morning drop-off for all students will be now 7:15-7:45am to allow for social distancing and safe entry to the building. Morning drop-off will now only be at the main entrance of the school for all staff and students.

Students in Year 3-6 will enter through FS reception entrance and no parents/guardians will be permitted to be with them.

Students in in FS1 – Year 2 will enter through FS reception entrance and only be allowed to be accompanied by 1 parent (under 60) for a maximum of 10 minutes. Designated drop off areas will be from the playground, through the external classroom door.

Secondary students will enter through Secondary School entrance and no parents/guardians will be allowed.

Please allow more time than usual to drop off and collect students as there will be a higher volume of traffic with only one entry and exit.

Afternoon collection times will be the following:

- ***FS (Group 1) 12:30pm***
- ***FS (Group 2) 1pm***
- ***Year 1-6 – 2:45pm***
- ***Year 7-9 – 2:55pm***
- ***Year 10 – 13 – 03.05pm***

Only one family member or a guardian is allowed to enter the school car park to drop off/pick up his/her child. People with compromised medical conditions, including the elderly, should not come for drop off and pick up.

If truly needed, parents/guardians can only visit the school by prior appointment.

Appointments will not happen during drop off, pick up, and break time to avoid crowding.

Appointments must be made via the main school reception.

1. Entry, Pick Up and School Visit Procedures

E) Procedures for meetings outside of school hours.

After the period of distance learning we now have in place a very effective means by which we can conduct meetings either via Microsoft Teams both during and outside of school hours. This will continue as it has been for term three of the last academic year.

F) What else you need to know about entry, exit and school visit procedures.

Staff will be discouraged from exiting the school during the day, but if they do for emergency purposes, they will not be allowed to return to the premises unless they have fully sanitized and changed their clothes upon return. They will also undergo thermal screening before entry.

Teachers and students older than 6 years of age are required to wear face masks at all times.

HOW TO WASH YOUR HANDS



USE SOAP



PALM TO PALM



BACK TO HANDS



FINGERS INTERLACED



BASE OF THUMBS



FINGERNAILS



RINSE HANDS



DRY HANDS

This is the right way to do it.



One of the most important ways to protect yourself from COVID-19 infection is to wash your hands well and often.

2. Screening & Emergency Plan

A) Our emergency medical procedures in case of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases.

We have established isolation rooms which are located next door to the medical centre out of the main body of the school and are close to reception. If a stable case of illness is detected amongst visitors or staff presenting COVID-19 symptoms such as fever ($\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$), cough, body ache or fatigue, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, diarrhoea and nausea, headache, or loss of sense of smell or taste, the school's designated Health and Safety officer will contact the DHA hotline number 800342. In cases of emergencies, such as having unstable cases amongst staff, students or visitors, we will immediately contact 999 or 997.

If a child/member of staff begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, they will be isolated instantly, and the parent/guardian of the child will be notified immediately. The patient will then be referred to the hospital to take the necessary action. The patient will not return to school until the PCR result is obtained. If the result is negative and there is a clinical assessment of a probable COVID-19 case, the patient should complete a 14-day quarantine. If the result is negative and there is no clinical assessment for a probable case, the child can resume schooling so long as they are symptom free.

If the result is positive, the traced contacts of the patient – including the teachers and the classmates of a student, or colleagues of a member of staff – are all considered close contacts (i.e. anyone who spent more than 15 minutes in a proximity of 2 metres with the positive case, from the day of symptoms onset, or the day of the positive PCR test). Traced contacts must all commence a 14-day quarantine from the day of the positive test, or from the day of the onset of symptoms if ascertained by the clinician.

In cases of COVID-19 emergency, we will follow our endorsed guidelines for emergencies supported by one of the school's qualified nurse who will be wearing adequate personal protection equipment. Also, the Health and Safety Officer in charge will ensure that the child is accompanied by an adult wearing full PPE when transported to home or to the hospital. Measures for disinfection will be taken as per the guidelines, for the classroom and the school premises used by the child as traced, and the holding isolation room where the staff and students wait for their transportation.

2. *Screening & Emergency Plan*

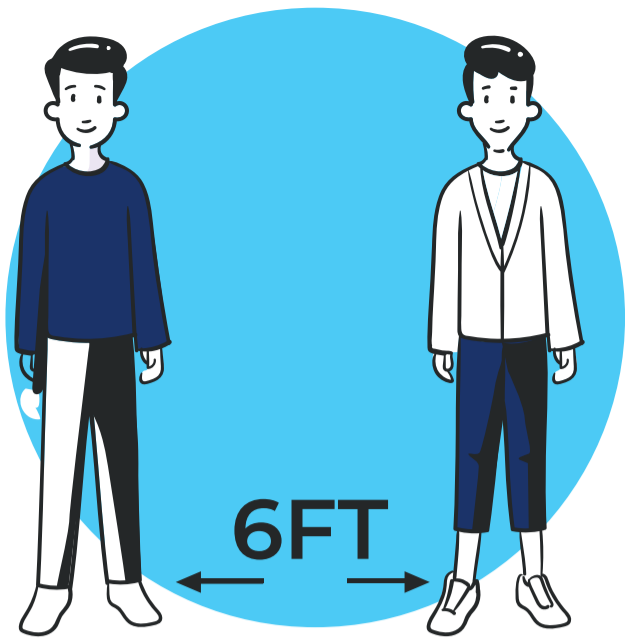
B) How we will support the well-being of individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 from their onset of symptoms through their period of isolation and eventual return to school.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19 and is hospitalised then we will ensure that the Head of Year and SLT remains in contact with their parents to track the progress of their recovery until they return home.

Once home it will be the responsibility of parents in consultation with their child to see if they would like to access schoolwork online. Once the student feels well enough to access schoolwork then it will be the responsibility of their parents to inform the Head of Year. In turn, the Head of Year will notify the child's teachers so that they can activate online learning.

The student will be able to speak to their LEAD teacher/classroom teacher and their tutor group online during tutor times to ensure they have social contact and they will be able to collaborate with their peers online during lessons.

Once the child has received a negative COVID-19 test result and they are symptom free they can resume school. Before their physical return to school the student will need to sign a health declaration form (digitally) and show an electronic copy of their clearance certificate from the DHA stating that they are discharged from isolation.



AVOID CLOSE CONTACT



CLEAN YOUR HANDS OFTEN



STAY AT HOME

WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF



COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES



WEAR A FACEMASK AT ALL TIMES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT SANITIZE USING ALCOHOL BASED PRODUCTS

3. *Monitoring Attendance and Contact Tracing*

A) Our arrangements and responsibilities for recordkeeping.

Only those staff and students declaring good health within 14 days of the first day of the academic year will be permitted on the school site. Staff and students who are unwell will be sent home even if they do not have COVID-19.

The school already takes an attendance register every lesson. Students will also be assigned designated seats in each of their classes so we will know which child has sat in each seat in the school every day. Taking registers is the responsibility of teaching staff. This will enable us to trace students if necessary.

All teaching staff inform the head of year in primary and Head of secondary if they are going to be absent. All admin staff inform HR if they are going to be absent on a daily basis. We know which rooms each teacher is teaching in on a daily basis and during non-contact periods all teaching staff will be assigned a designated work area around the school such as staffrooms, offices and preparation rooms. All admin staff are expected to work at a designated seats on a daily basis. This will enable us to trace staff if necessary.

All guests and visitors sign into a visitors' log at the main gate including their name, date of visit and mobile phone number. This visitors' log will be maintained by the security staff so there are no shared pens or visitors' badges and passes. Visitors will not be required to wear a guest pass, however, they must be accompanied by a member of staff at a 1.5m distance on site. This process will enable us to trace visitors if necessary.

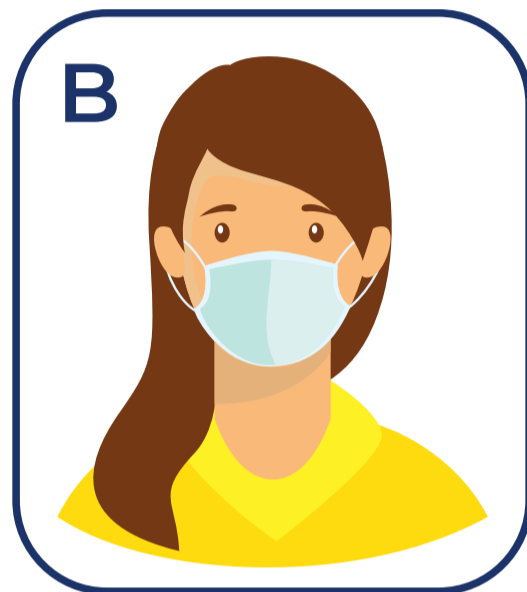
B) What else you need to know about contact tracing.

The school has appointed a designated Health and Safety Officer, Russell Foster, who is assigned to handle any emergency situation, follow up and monitor the implementation of health and safety procedures, and conduct all necessary trainings for students and staff. This person is also responsible for the designated isolation rooms within the school premises.

WEARING A MASK



Before putting on mask, clean hand with alcohol based hand rub or soap and water



Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask



Avoid touching the mask while using it : If you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



Reolace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks



To remove the mask :
Remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask)

Discard immediately in a closed bin.

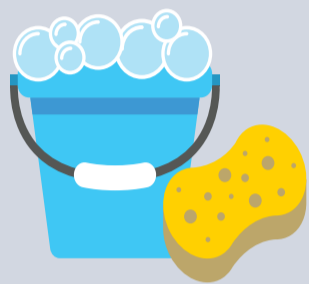
Clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

Clean and Disinfect for COVID-19

How do I clean and disinfect?



Put on disposable gloves.
Throw them away when you're done.



First, clean to remove dirt.
Use soap and water to remove dirt and some germs.



Next, disinfect to kill germs.
Disinfectants need different times to work.
Follow the directions on the label.



Throw away gloves and wash your hands.
Scrub hands for 20 seconds with soap and warm water.

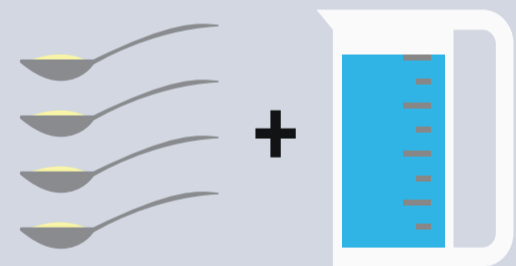
What should I use?



Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogen claims.



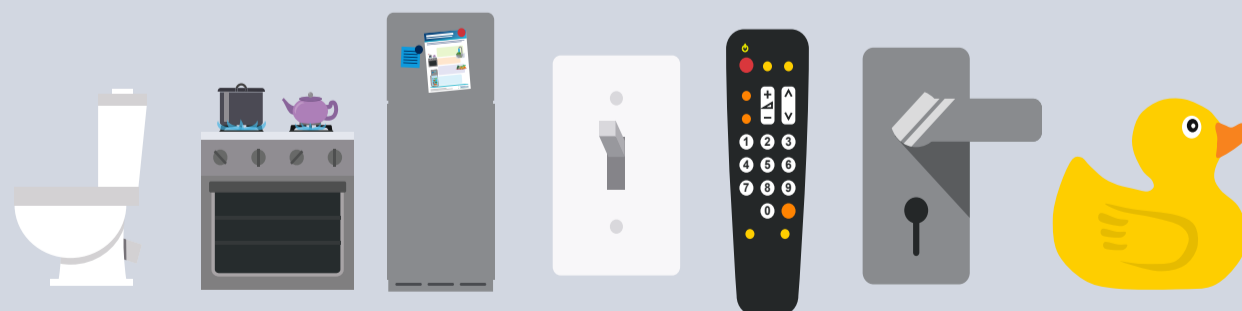
Products with at least 70% alcohol solutions.



Mix 4 teaspoons of bleach with 1 quart of water.

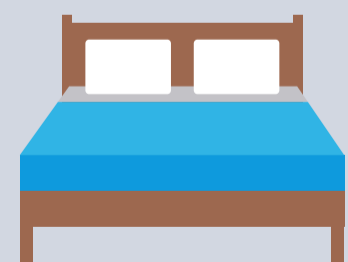
How often should I clean and disinfect?

1-3 times a day



Bathrooms, kitchens and surfaces people touch often.
Like light switches, remotes, door handles, phones and toys.
Put away toys that are hard to clean.

Weekly



Sleeping areas. Clean and disinfect more often when dirty or between people.

Keep your family healthy.

5. *Physical Distancing Set-up*

A) How we will maintain physical distancing throughout breaks and lunches

The 1.5 metre distancing measure rule is maintained in all common areas and classrooms throughout breaks and lunches.

Teaching spaces will enable individuals to maintain physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres per child in each classroom.

Entry to and from toilets will be monitored at breaks and lunchtimes to ensure that they do not become crowded. We will limit the number of students who use the toilet facilities at one time. Toilets will be cleaned hourly throughout the day .

We will be encouraging the use of outside space for exercise and breaks and for outdoor education, where possible, as this can limit transmission and more easily allow for distance between student and staff.

We will also be staggering the use of staff rooms and offices, their entry and exit, and the use of their pantries, to limit occupancy. Pantries can be opened for use by individuals strictly for food and drink consumption maintaining a 1.5 metres physical distancing. No buffets or other forms of gatherings are allowed.

Lockers are permitted as long as physical distancing measures are not compromised. Secondary students must bring their own padlocks for their assigned locker.

All coffee stations will follow 1.5 metre physical distancing guidelines so that queuing is avoided.

Crucially no water dispensers are allowed so parents must ensure their children have an appropriate supply of water for the full school day. Emergency supplies will be kept with operations .

All elevators will have markings on the floor that indicate physical distancing and users must comply by standing on these markings.

Contactless payments are encouraged and we advise you to use GEMS Connect for all payments for students, however, cash payments are allowed.

5. Physical Distancing Set-up

Showers and changing rooms are not permitted. If the students have PE lessons, they must come to school in their full PE uniform.

Vending machines, pantries and outlets selling pre-packed food and beverages are allowed with social distancing, on the condition that they follow necessary guidelines for the sector.

FS – Packed lunch

Y1-3 – Packed lunch and cold option served in classroom

Y4-6- Packed lunch and hot and cold food to be served in classroom

Y7-9 – Packed lunch or snacks available in canteen

Y10-11 – Packed lunch or snacks available in canteen

Y12-13 – Packed lunch or snacks in tuck shop

STAY AT HOME

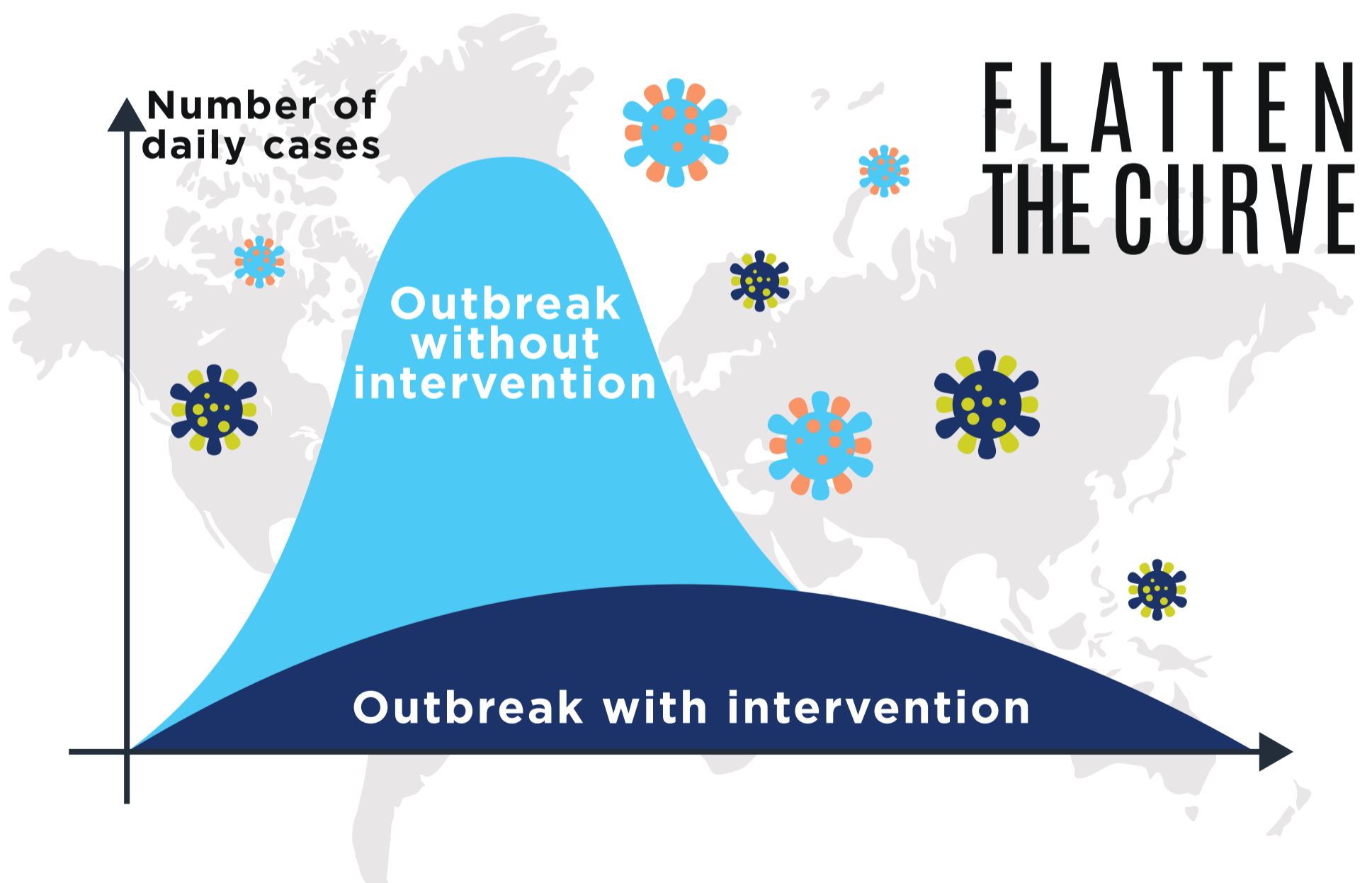
STOP THE VIRUS

You can be infected with COVID-19 but show no symptoms. If you come in contact with the others, there is a high possibility that you can pass the virus on to 2 - 3 people who, in turn, can pass it on to others and so on. That's how the transmission chain starts and continues.

We have to break the chain, by reducing the opportunity for the virus to spread (by social and physical distancing), we reduce the number of people who get infected.

As numbers decrease, the medical work load will be reduced on doctors, nurses and health services. This can help the medical staff to provide better care to the sick people to ensure fast recovery.

The is called “Flattening The Curve”.



SLOWING THE SPREAD OF THE INFECTION IS NEARLY AS IMPORTANT AS STOPPING IT.

YOUR COMMITMENT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SAVING LIVES. IT'S IN YOUR HANDS...

ISOLATION || QUARANTINE

What is the difference?



Isolation



Quarantine

Used for

People with confirmed or suspected COVID-19

Why

To keep the person from infecting others

Where

Could be at home, a health care facility, or an isolation location

Used for

People who were potentially exposed to COVID-19 and who are not sick

Why

- The person could have the virus in their body even without symptoms
- To quickly identify early symptoms

Where

Could be at home or a quarantine location

Confirmed case of COVID-19

Definitely Infectious

**Under strict supervision:
May not leave hospital
until fully recovered**

No Symptoms

Exposed to the virus in some way

Keep away from others for 14 days

**Do not share bedding, towels,
cutlery or crockery, etc.**

7. Education Provision

A) Changes to our learning groups to try and keep cohorts together where possible.

Foundation stage students will attend school for 100% of the timetable, providing they are fit and well. Foundation Stage classes will be split into two groups of 10 students, with one group attending 7.30-12.30pm and the other 8am-1pm. Teachers will deliver small group inputs over the day to both groups and each class will have an allocation of three adults, including the teacher.

Year 1-6 students will attend lessons in school 50% of the time, observing the 1.5m social distancing rules. Class teachers will allocate the students into two groups with half of the class attending on each day. In year 1, the students will be split into smaller groups as per KHDA requirements. Students will be assigned their own designated seat within the classroom as well as their own equipment. For the students that are not in school, they will continue to receive a high quality lesson via live video link on Teams. The timetable will be arranged so that teachers deliver lessons both online, as well as in the classroom, with whole classes coming together for events such as story time and assembly. Arabic will be delivered online for the first two weeks of the school year.

Year 7-9 students will follow a blended approach, with an A/B model of 50% face to face learning in school and 50% remote learning at home. Half of the students will be in school on a Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and the remaining half will be in school on a Monday and Wednesday. This will rotate each week providing alternating 2 and 3 days of face to face learning, complimented by the highest quality remote learning via Teams. This will provide a continuation of learning across 5 days and ensure full coverage of the timetable. Year leaders will communicate specific guidance in the coming weeks.

Year 10-13 students will attend lessons in school 100% of the time observing 1.5m social distancing within the classroom. Where possible, students will remain in the same classrooms, however, due to the nature of selecting options there will be movement from classroom to classroom for elective subjects within the year group “bubble”. All students will be assigned to designated seats in all of their designated classrooms.

During their study periods *Year 12 & 13 students* will be assigned access to a designated areas and the common room which allows them to undertake silent study 1.5m apart.

The Sixth Form common room will be closed as a social space and now only used as a study area until further notice.

7. *Education Provision*

B) Physical Education (PE)

To ensure that students remain active and keep healthy, we will attempt when safe physical education (PE) lessons, with strict adherence to safety management measures. There may be occasions where lessons will take the format of theory lessons based on the facilities available at the time. Theory lessons will be in a classroom where social distancing is in place. Students must maintain physical distancing while entering the sports facilities.

During PE lessons, students and PE teachers will not be required to wear masks when engaged in strenuous physical activities such as running and workouts, as long as they adhere to physical distancing measures.

PE lessons will focus on sports that do not require physical interaction and school swimming pools will remain closed until further notice.

All staff and trainers will maintain physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres during their PE lessons: there will be visible markers on the floor to indicate appropriate spacing. All health & safety guidelines/standards in all sports halls are in line with DM Health & Safety Guidelines.

Frequent sanitization of all equipment and all areas in which PE lessons are offered will take place after every use and post closure of the school.

No tournaments or events will take place at this time.

7. Education Provision

C) Support for students with EAL, Counselling, Gifted & Talented; and Special Education needs and disabilities.

In order to support our students who receive additional support service from the Inclusion Hub (Students of Determination, EAL, G&T and Counselling), to the best of our ability and to be in line with all required protocols, The Inclusion Hub will continue to provide all support services whether the student is physically in school or opting for distancing learning. The Inclusion Hub will provide their support in the same methods as was done throughout Term 3 of 2019-2020.

- Individual Learning Support Assistants will be present every day to support students when they are in school as well as online should the student be completing distance learning. All LSA fees will be reinstated for the start of this new academic year.
- The ASDAN class will be running at 100% physical attendance unless prior discussions have occurred with the Head of Inclusion and distance learning has been requested.
- The Unity Class will be running at 100% physical attendance with all packaged therapy services running.
- Inclusion support will be done on a small group basis and/or 1:1 basis dependant on the students' needs, Individual Education Plan targets, students class schedule and Inclusion Support Teacher's schedule.
- Students of Determination will receive their IEP's as they usually would and IEP meetings will be occurring online as done in Term 3.
- We will make all necessary adaptations and adjustments according to the preferences and needs of our Students of Determination including the provision of transparent face shields for Inclusion Support teachers to use during their lessons to enable lip reading, and sight of facial expressions.
- Students of Determination and a parent/guardian can make an appointment with Ms Tracey to begin visiting the school premises to start the transition process and developing school routines for the start of this new academic year. These 30minute visits will begin from 16th of August. Please email her directly for an appointment.
t.holliman2_mts@gemsedu.com

7. Education Provision

- Where a blended approach to learning is likely to cause anxiety for a Student of Determination, please contact Ms Tracey to discuss how an adapted support program can be developed.
- EAL Support Services will continue online and in person and will align with the students' attendance schedule. Students will be required to complete online baseline assessments which will require an iPad. Individual Language Plans will be drawn up to further guide you as a family on what language targets are being worked on and how you can assist from home.
- Counselling Support services will be available for all students via Teams and face to face appointments. Individual Counselling plans will be developed and discussed, as previously done. For further information on required counselling sessions, please feel free to contact
Ms Rubina Zahoor r.zahoor_mts@gemsedu.com or
Ms Rajone Karmarkar r.karmarkar_mts@gemsedu.com
- Gifted and Talented programs will continue to run. Student workshops will be run via Teams as was done in Term 3. For all parents who would like to get involved in this initiative again, please contact Ms Siobhan Scanlan s.scanlan_mts@gemsedu.com

Physical meetings with the Inclusion Hub team will need to be made by appointment only otherwise all staff are readily available for online meetings between 3:30pm and 4pm.

External therapy support services will need to be discussed with Ms Tracey for approval and confirmation on whether they are able to be conducted on the school premises at specific times.

For any further questions please feel free to contact our Inclusion Champion Tracey Ferguson in the coming weeks and she and her team will do their best to support your family.

7. *Education Provision*

D) Plans for teaching students who opt for 100% remote learning and those with high risk medical conditions.

MTS will continue to offer a similar successful model for live online lessons as we used during term three of the last academic year. Teachers will continue to deliver all of their lessons live through Microsoft Teams. All lesson resources and materials will be uploaded prior to the lesson so in the case where there are any connection difficulties, the lesson materials will all be available to the students.

Teachers will take a register of all students accessing the lesson whether at home or in school. When taking a register, the teacher will differentiate between those students who are physically present in school and those students who are present online. There will be opportunities for both the present students and the online students to ask questions throughout the lesson and this will be controlled and directed by the class teacher.

E) Other changes.

In accordance with the Protocols for the Reopening of Private Schools in Dubai we must cancel or postpone special events such as festivals, holiday events, special performances and sports tournaments until further notice. Group activities such as school trips, celebrations, sports and student camps will also be suspended.

Students and teachers must bring their own exclusive stationery items, devices or gadgets (i.e. laptops, tablets, headphones, etc.). Students should not share their stationery. If the student need a supply of stationery, it should be done by the teacher via proper disinfection.

Since we must avoid using equipment that will require blowing (musical instruments, whistles, blow pipes etc.)

What is Social Distancing?



6 feet distance from others and avoiding close contact

AVOID



Social Gatherings/ Events



Sleepovers/ Play dates/ Visitors at your house



Fitness Centers



Crowded Retail Stores



Public Transportation



Traveling

USE CAUTION



Grocery Shopping



Getting Takeout



Picking up Medications



Interacting with People 6 + feet away from you

SAFE TO DO



Walk or Hike at a safe distance from one another



Clean the House & Yard



Go For A Drive



Video Chat



Watching Shows, Movies & Reading

Lockdown:

Enforced by government authorities.

Travel only for essential workers.

Strict measures until lifted, to stop the virus spread.

Leave home only for basic shopping or medical needs.

8. Food and Beverages

A) Availability of food.

Food catering at this stage will be restricted. The school will provide catering services based on pre-packaged food, while following Dubai Municipality guidelines related to catering services.

Families are encouraged to supply food and beverages for their children along with their own plastic safe utensils. Staff must also bring in their own food and drink. Teachers will be on duty in the building and the catering outlets to ensure that students do not share food.

Dubai Municipality's guidelines for cafés and restaurants will be followed especially regarding capacity restrictions, physical distancing, the use of disposable items, and hygiene across the venue and staff. Buffets or other forms of meal gatherings are not allowed.

As mentioned above, the school will implement staggered meal breaks that will ensure the safe minimum 1.5 metres distancing between students of the same class and 2 metres distancing between students of different classes.

FS students will need to bring their own packed lunches.

Primary Students will have food delivered to their classrooms. Years 1, 2 and 3 will have only cold packed lunches, and years 4, 5 and 6 will have the option of both hot and cold food. All classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized after the consumption of food.

Secondary lunch will run as normal and the canteen will be available for limited snacks only. Year 7-9 students can access in the first 20 minutes of lunch and Year 10&11 students can access in last 20 minutes of lunch. Sixth Form students will be able to access the tuck shop for snacks at this time. There will be no access to canteen at breaks.

A reminder that water dispensers are not allowed so students should bring full water bottles to school each day.

Again, final reminder that it is advised and recommended where possible to supply your son/daughter with a packed lunch.

9. *Transportation*

A) Revised arrangements for bus transportation.

We will need parents to register their desire to access the school bus service, noting that capacity has been reduced by 50% and not everyone who wishes to use the service will be able to use it. Priority will be given to students in the following order:

- (1) Vulnerable student in all year groups
- (2) Student of ill or disabled parents
- (3) Students of determination in all year groups

There will be no change to bus routes or pick up times. The only difference will be on the arrival to school where this will be staggered to allow social distancing. Departure times used (pre-Covid) will continue.

We will place marks on chairs for seating guidance. Everyone entering the bus will undergo temperature screening prior to boarding, including the driver and the assistant. Anyone with a temperature $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ will not be allowed on the bus but will be sent home. Bus assistants who are older than 60 years, suffering from serious chronic diseases or who are immunocompromised will not be on duty. All bus riders will wear masks and will not be allowed to board without wearing a mask.

Bus hygiene will be maintained by following the appropriate sanitization before and after each use as well as observing physical distancing standards. As we do currently, we will continue to keep daily records registering all bus riders throughout the day; as ever, absence will also be recorded. We are currently printing a significant amount of signage for use both on the buses and around the school site which will guide the student towards hygiene practices (i.e. respiratory hygiene, waste management, etc.). We will redouble our waste management and disinfection practices in particular ensuring that nothing is left in the back seat pockets and bins.

9. *Transportation*

If a child begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 while taking the bus, the child will be considered a probable COVID-19 case. At that stage we will ensure that the child is seated at least 1.5 metres away from the rest of the student. The bus attendant will then immediately inform the Health and Safety Officer in charge in the school who will immediately communicate with SLT and the child's parents or guardians. If the trip is a return trip home at the end of the day, the child with symptoms will be dropped off first. If the trip is a journey to school in the morning, the child will be isolated on arrival.

The child will not be allowed to return to school until the PCR result is obtained. If the result is negative, the child will not be allowed to return to school until they are symptom free. If the result is positive, the traced contacts of the child, including staff and other riders on the bus, are considered close contacts. We will instruct them all to commence the 14 day quarantine counted from the day of the positive PCR test, or from the day of the onset of symptoms if ascertained by the clinician.

CORONAVIRUS CALL CENTERS

800 1111

Ministry of Health & Prevention

800 1717

Medical Operations Command Centre

800 342

Dubai Health Authority

CALL CENTERS

+971 4 550 7200

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