

NAME OF POLICY	Stay at home policy
APPROVED BY	Vice Principal
DATE APPROVED	24 th January 2021
DATE OF REVIEW	21 st January 2021

Introduction

The reopening of schools in this new calendar year of 2020/2021 will look different to previous years due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This is a topical issue within the health care framework. It is imperative that policies are in place to guide actions toward achieving a desired outcome.

The Policy is created with information provided by ongoing developments about the pandemic and recommendations of governmental authorities.

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are the following:

- ✚ New continuous cough
- ✚ High temperature
- ✚ Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 can be a mild illness whilst for others it can be severe. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, stay at home and arrange to have a *Polymerase chain reaction* (PCR) test to verify if one is infected with the COVID-19 virus.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 however mild, self-isolate for 10 days from when the symptoms are present. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

If you are not experiencing symptoms (asymptomatic) but have tested positive for COVID-19, self-isolate for at least 10 days, starting from the day the test was taken. If you develop symptoms during this isolation period, restart your 10-day isolation from the day you developed symptoms.

OBJECTIVES

- ✚ To provide clear guidelines to all members of the school community
- ✚ To understand the protocols to be followed if unwell
- ✚ To prevent the spread of COVID-19

Safety measures recommended:

- ✚ If a student has a temperature of 37.5°C or above, the student should stay at home.
- ✚ Parents must check their child's temperature before leaving home in the morning. A policy of 'stay at home if unwell or present a temperature of more than 37.5°C,' will be enforced for students, teachers and school staff.
- ✚ If you have COVID-19 related symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat, headaches, body ache, chills, loss of smell or taste and any other related symptoms you should stay at home.

Students

- ✚ Students can attend classes through the distance learning platform.
- ✚ If tested positive for COVID -19 students need to immediately get in touch with the medical staff (HSC) of the school or the principal.
- ✚ Immunocompromised students are requested to opt for distance learning.
- ✚ Students should inform their class teachers when not attending physical school. All assessments will be conducted online for such students.
- ✚ If attending face to face learning, it is mandatory to submit DHA clearance form, stating they are Covid-free. No student will be permitted to come into the campus without the form, after a positive result.
- ✚ To prevent cross infection, parents are requested to monitor siblings of students who stay at home for symptoms as well.
- ✚ All stay at home student assignments can be submitted to the teachers via online.
- ✚ If a student falls ill while in the school bus, he/she will be returned back to their home immediately after informing the parent.
- ✚ If a student falls ill while in school, the parent will be informed immediately and the parent is expected to collect the child from school without delay.

Teachers

- ✚ If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 he/she is required to immediately notify the medical staff (HSC) of the school or the principal.
- ✚ For face to face teaching, it is mandatory for teachers to submit the DHA Clearance form, stating they are Covid-free to return to school. No teacher will be permitted to come into the campus without the form, after a positive result.
- ✚ Online teaching should have the same impact as face to face. Teachers are expected to take attendance, give assignments and tests to the students.
- ✚ Absence due to illness as a result of Covid 19, must be reported following the absence policy procedure.

Approved By:

Vice Principal

Ms. Jaqueline Hamilton

Vice Principal K – 5



Vice Principal

Dr. Karla Moore

Vice Principal 6 – 12


