



## **UPDATED COVID-19 PRECAUTIONARY PROCEDURES**

I would first like to thank you profusely for your support and understanding with our Covid-19 precautionary procedures since the start of the new academic year in September, which, of course has been our top priority. As we are now entering the winter season, I thought that it would be beneficial to highlight to you some of the main precautions, which we are taking to safeguard the health and wellbeing of all members of our community, which of course, continues to be of paramount importance to us.

I trust that this update reassures you that our GEMS Egypt Schools are doing all that they can to protect the health and safety of all members of our community. We also ask all our parents to monitor your child's health and to not send them to school if they have symptoms of Covid-19, including an elevated temperature. We are confident that by working together in partnership we can really mitigate the risks of the transmission of Covid-19 within our school communities.

With very best wishes and we wish you and your families all the best of health,

**Stuart Bryan**

VP Education, GEMS Egypt

**GEMS**

EDUCATION EGYPT



# Entry on to the campus



- We will continue to require temperature checks of all students, staff, parents and visitors who enter the campus. Anyone with an elevated temperature **will not be allowed to enter the campus and asked to seek medical advice** (students will be isolated and parents will be asked to collect them ASAP and advised to seek medical advice). We will also carry out additional random temperature control checks as necessary throughout the school day as an added precautionary measure.
- We will continue to require all students, staff, parents and visitors, who enter the campus to disinfect their hands and to continue to do this on a regular basis throughout the day.
- We will continue to require all staff, parents, visitors and students of Year 4 and above to wear face coverings upon entry and throughout the day. We will require these students to keep their masks on in all lessons and around the school at all times, unless socially distanced. Both the nose and the mouth must be covered by the mask at all times. **No mask may be removed at any time when within 1- 2 meters of another person** and not appropriately socially distanced.
- We continue to ask all parents to drop off and pick up their children from the designated places, which have worked so effectively so far this term, and to limit the number of times that they access the campus. Appointments made virtually or over the telephone remain preferable to in-person visits and we ask any parent with an in-person school visit to have an appointment with the appropriate staff member in advance of the school visit.

**Temperature Check**

**Hand Sanitisation**

**Face Masks**

## School Transport

- All bus drivers, bus matrons and students in Year 4 and above are required to **wear a face covering** over the mouth and nose at all times.
- All students boarding the buses are required to **disinfect their hands and have their temperatures taken**. Anyone with an elevated temperature will not be allowed to board the bus.
- School buses are frequently cleaned and disinfected, especially high touch areas such as seats, arm rests, seatbelts and grab handles. This takes place both before and after the student journey.
- Windows on the bus are left slightly open to promote ventilation.
- Seating on the buses is **separated by dividers** so as to assist social distancing.



## During the School Day

- We will continue to apply **socially distancing measures** as best we can throughout the school day and ensure that all students remain within their year group “bubble” and do not mix as far as possible with other students outside this year group.
- **Students will have all the materials** that they need provided in their own individual classroom. Any item shared with another student or group will be thoroughly disinfected before reuse by another student or group. Students can continue to visit the library but any items used will be stored in isolation for a three-day period until being placed back on the shelves for other students to access.
- We will **continue to carry out thorough disinfection of the school premises**, particularly high-touch areas, such as handles, light switches, school equipment, washrooms etc. We will increase even further our disinfection of all classroom surfaces on a regular bases throughout the school day.

## During the School Day

- We will keep all our indoor spaces as well ventilated as possible, with access to outside air if possible.
- We will continue to **not hold any large meetings** of staff, students and parents, unless they can be socially distanced, and will use virtual meetings where possible.
- We will keep our **after school physical activities and trips programme suspended**, however, we encourage your children to join our expanding range of virtual after school activities.
- We will continue to **monitor physical education activities and promote individual skills and training**. No equipment will be shared between students and groups without appropriate disinfection. The after-school sports' programme will remain suspended.
- Students are constantly asked to wash their hands throughout the school day.



## Responding to positive cases on the school campus

- Students/staff are immediately sent home and asked to seek medical advice if they exhibit any symptoms of Covid-19, including an elevated temperature beyond normal levels.
- If students are identified upon arrival, the student must wait in the designated isolation room and await parent pick up.



## Responding to positive cases on the school campus

- Confirmed positive cases must self-isolate at home for at least 10 days, and cannot return to school until three days pass with no symptoms or a negative PCR test has been confirmed and presented to the school.
  - Confidentiality will be maintained by the school for any individual who tests positive, but we will “track and trace” any known close contacts who will be informed that they have come into contact with a confirmed positive case
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- Quarantine arrangements will be reviewed upon a case by case basis. If a single student is confirmed positive, as a precautionary measure, we will place the class on remote learning for a 10-day period and their immediate family members in the school will also be asked to self-isolate for up to 10 days, but it is unlikely that the whole year group will be asked to quarantine, unless there are a cluster of cases in a particular year group.
  - If a number of students (a “cluster”) are confirmed by PCR tests as positive within a two-week period, the whole year level may be required to quarantine for up to 10 days, including weekends and the school will provide remote learning for this year group as per the normal school timetable.
  - The school will communicate to the specific year level only regarding a confirmed student positive case. If there is no specific communication for other year groups, it means that there has been no positive confirmed student case in these year groups.