



## **POLICY ON COVID-19**

### **Please note:**

1. This Policy has been written in conjunction with statements by the following organizations: World Health Organization, Department of Health, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centre for Infectious Diseases.
2. As scientists and medical personal are learning new things about this disease every day, this policy may change during the upcoming weeks, changes will be sent to stakeholders immediately. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/>  
<https://www.who.int/> <https://www.nicd.ac.za/>

## **BACKGROUND OF COVID -19**

### **What is COVID-19?**

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for virus, and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as '2019 novel coronavirus' or '2019- nCoV.' The COVID-19 virus is a new virus linked to the same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and some types of common cold.

### **What are the symptoms of COVID-19?**

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia or breathing difficulties. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. These symptoms are similar to the flu (influenza) or the common cold, which are a lot more common than COVID-19. This is why testing is required to confirm if someone has COVID-19.

### **How does COVID-19 spread?**

The virus is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from and touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face (e.g., eyes, nose, mouth). The COVID- 19 virus may survive on surfaces for several hours, but simple disinfectants can kill it.

### **What is the treatment for COVID-19?**

There is no currently available vaccine for COVID-19. However, many of the symptoms can be treated and getting early care from a healthcare provider can make the disease less dangerous. There are several clinical trials that are being

conducted to evaluate potential therapeutics for COVID-19.

**How can the spread of COVID-19 be slowed down or prevented?**

As with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illnesses. Public health measures are everyday preventive actions that include:

- ✓ staying home when sick;
- ✓ covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissue immediately;
- ✓ washing hands often with soap and water; and
- ✓ cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects.

# **GOALS OF THIS POLICY:**

- 1. PROTECTION OF STAFF, LEARNERS AND PARENTS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE BY PREVENTION OF TRANSMISSION OF COVID 19**
- 2. SLOW TRANSMISSION OF COVID 19 THROUGH EARLY DETECTION**
- 3. EMPOWERING SCHOOL COMMUNITY THROUGH EDUCATION**

## **A. PROTECTION AND PREVENTION**

### **1. PROTECTIVE**

#### **WEAR Staff:**

##### **MAINTENANCE STAFF**

Cleaners will have full protective gear including gloves, aprons, two washable masks and personal hand sanitizer as well as washing powder.

##### **TEACHERS AND ADMIN STAFF**

All staff should provide their own masks and personal hand sanitizer.

##### **LEARNERS**

A mask or face cover must be worn by the learners at all times. Each learner should supply his or her own face mask, hand sanitizer and water bottle.

##### **PARENTS AND ANY OTHER VISITORS**

No visitors or parents will be permitted on to the property.

### **2. CLEANING**

- i) School will be deep cleaned starting with reception areas, offices, restrooms and classrooms that are used in phase one of opening. Balance of the classrooms and areas can be done while phase one teaching is in progress.
- ii) Cleaning will be done after every school day in the classrooms being used throughout the phase in.
- iii) Learners' desks and chairs will be wiped down at the beginning of the day and after every lesson by the learner, with a cloth and jik/water solution.
- iv) Learners and staff will be required to wash their hands and arms, for at least 20 seconds using soap and water, FREQUENTLY.
- v) Hand Sanitizers will be available throughout the school.
- vi) EVERYONE that enters the school property MUST have their shoes sprayed with jik/water solution.
- vii) EVERYONE ENTERING THE PREMISES MUST WASH/SANATIZE THEIR HANDS.



## C.QUESTIONNAIRE

Every person entering the school will be required to fill out a short questionnaire.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

1. HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:

- fever.
- tiredness.
- dry cough.
- aches and pains.
- nasal congestion.
- runny nose.
- sore throat.
- Diarrhoea

2. ARE ANY MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:

- fever.
- tiredness.
- dry cough.
- aches and pains.
- nasal congestion.
- runny nose.
- sore throat.
- diarrhoea

3. HAVE YOU BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE WHO HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID 19 IN THE LAST WEEK.

- YES
- NO

4. HAS ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE WHO HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID 19 IN THE LAST WEEK.

- YES
- NO

5. IS ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IN QUARANTINE OR HOSPITAL FOR COVID 19.

- YES
- NO

6. WERE YOU ABLE TO PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING IN YOUR TRANSPORT:

A. ON YOUR WAY HOME YESTERDAY:

- YES
- NO

B. ON YOUR WAY TO SCHOOL TODAY

- YES
- NO

