



Russian International School

2020 – 2021 academic year

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY

“STAYING AT HOME IF UNWELL” POLICY

In accordance with **KHDA Protocol** (*dated 05.07.2020*) for the Reopening of Private Schools in Dubai, and **DHA Protocol**, providing **health and safety** for all school process participants and **preventing the spread of Covid-19**, the rules and regulations are to be strictly adhered by **Staff, Parents and Students**.

In case of non-compliance to Health and Safety Regulations, the School reserves the right to deny Parents or Students the entry to the School Premises (*as per KHDA Protocol clause 43*).

1. PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES / HEALTH EDUCATION

1) **Educate children / staff about Covid-19 health and safety instructions:**

- symptoms
- methods of transmission
- protection measures (face masks, hand sanitizers, physical distance, sneezing and coughing etiquette)
- daily healthy routine / precautionary behavior.

2) **Safety and Wellbeing when travelling to and from Home:**

- sanitizing the child's belongings
- disposing the used face mask / tissue
- hygiene of exposed areas of body.

3) **Health and Safety Team to identify and record each case under:**

- suspected Covid-19 case
- confirmed Covid-19 case
- Close Contact to Covid-19 patient.

CASE DEFINITIONS AND RISK ASSESSMENT:

Suspected Covid-19 is defined as:

- the Patient who presents upper or lower respiratory symptoms with or without fever $\geq 37.50^{\circ}$
- and if with the International Travel History during the 14 days prior to symptom onset
- been in contact with a confirmed Covid-19 case within 14 days
- residing in a community setting where Covid-19 cases have been detected
- cases of influenza-like illness without history of travel or known possible exposure.

Confirmed Covid-19 is defined as:

- a person with a positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test result for Covid-19 infection that is reported by an approved laboratory, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

Covid-19 Close Contact is defined as:

- a person who is coming to close proximity of less than 2 meters for a period that is more than 15 minutes with a confirmed Covid-19 case, starting from 2 days before the onset of symptoms in the confirmed case and/or throughout the duration of illness.

Risk Assessment should include all School and Home risk-related activities / hazards exposure / Covid-19 contacts exposure

2. SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

A policy of “**Staying at home if unwell**” should be enforced for Students / Staff showing symptoms of Covid-19 such as:

- fever $\geq 37.5^{\circ}$
- sneezing / coughing
- body ache or fatigue
- shortness of breath / respiratory infection
- sore throat
- runny nose
- diarrhea
- nausea
- headache
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

- Staying at home if sick is the best thing to do in order to prevent spread of COVID-19.
- If feeling unwell, it's critical to stay at home and recover.
- If waiting for COVID-19 test results, and/or instructed by DHA to self-isolate, the Student/Staff Member must do so immediately.

Self-isolation means staying at home and taking precautions to avoid close contact with those around.

If unwell. minimize the time in shared spaces such as bathrooms, kitchens and sitting rooms at home as much as possible and keep rooms well ventilated. Avoid social visitors; stay at home until fully recovered.

- 2.1. If a Student/Staff Member shows symptoms of Covid-19 while at School, he/she will be instantly isolated to the designated isolated room; the Parent or Guardian

of a Student will be immediately notified / the patient should be referred to the hospital to take necessary action.

- 2.2. If a Student/Staff Member shows **symptoms of Covid-19 while at home**, he/she must stay at home. Student's Parents / Guardians should inform the **Health and Safety Officer / School Management**.
- 2.3. If a Student/Staff Member is identified as a **Close Contact to Covid-19 patient**, he/she should stay at home (14-day quarantine / self-isolation will be adhered if instructed by DHA) and monitor health.
- 2.4. The patient should not return to School until the PCR test result is obtained.
 - (a) If the result is **negative and there is no clinical statement** of a probable Covid-19 case, the student can resume schooling.
 - (b) If the result is **negative and there is a clinical statement** of a probable Covid-19 case, the patient should complete a **14-day quarantine**.
 - (c) If the result is **positive**, the traced contacts of the patient, including Teachers and classmates of a Student, are all considered **close contacts** - anyone who spent more than 15 minutes in a proximity of 2 meters with the positive case, from the day of symptoms onset or the day of the positive PCR test (*as per KHDA Protocol clause 14*). They should all commence **the 14-day quarantine** counted from the day of positive PCR test or from the day of the onset of symptoms if ascertained by the clinician.
 - (d) If a Student/Staff Member was confirmed **positive** according to a Covid-19 PCR test by an accredited facility, he/she is not allowed to return to the School Premises unless he/she is granted a **Clearance Certificate by DHA**, stating that he/she is discharged from the isolation.

3. WHILE ON QUARANTINE / ISOLATION

- 3.1. Alternative academic provision (Distance Learning) will be ensured for Students who are unable to attend classes physically due to health condition (Covid-19 isolation, quarantine).
- 3.2. Students should follow the School Rules and Instructions related to Distance Learning.
- 3.3. Ensuring the Staff sick-leave policy is consistent with the public regulated health guidelines.

4. CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

- 4.1. Parents/Staff Members should inform the Health and Safety Team if Covid-19 symptoms occur through the designated channels:
 - phone calls to **04-264-15-15 or 04-264-16-17**
 - emails to **parents.ris@dubairuschool.com**

- 4.2. Parents/Staff Members can contact DHA call center 800342 / or DHA toll-free number 800588 for more information related to Covid-19.
- 4.3. Safety Team and Wellbeing Team cooperation with Parents/Staff in terms of:
- staying at home without fear of stigma or reprisal
 - recording / monitoring / following up on Student/Staff health
- 4.4. The Health and Safety Officer will maintain adequate records and follow up on the Student/Staff health / absenteeism on a daily basis at School Health and Safety Registrar.