RUSSIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

2020-2021 academic year

COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

In accordance with **DHA and KHDA Protocols** and regular School consultations with authorities, providing Health and Safety for all school process participants and preventing the spread of Covid-19, the below **Guidelines** are to be adhered by **Parents and Students**.

*Parents are requested to consider the sensitivities around COVID-19, to avoid stigma and panicking situations. There are dedicated teams from **DHA and KHDA** as well as the **Health and Safety Team at School** ready to support you.*

Parents channels of communication:

Hotline whats app:	+971-50-613-60-91
Tel. administration:	+971-4-264-15-15
Email:	parents.ris@dubairuschool.com

What does COVID-19 Positive mean?

Someone who tests **positive** for COVID-19 after a **PCR test**.

What is a Primary (Close) Contact of a COVID-19 Positive case?

In the **Home setting**, a Primary (Close) Contact is **a direct family member** and/or people living in the same house who spend a significant amount of time together in close contact.

At **School Premises**, the DHA would consider a Primary (Close) Contact to be anyone who has spent **15 consecutive minutes or longer within 2 metres** of another person who tests positive for COVID-19.

What is a Secondary Contact?

A Secondary Contact is anyone who has been **in contact with a Primary (Close) Contact**.

As per DHA Protocol, the Close Contact cases are:

- people who were in close proximity (less than 2 meters) from a confirmed COVID-19 case, for a period of more than 15 minutes starting from 2 days before symptoms begin appearing in the confirmed case and/or throughout the duration of the illness.

Identifying Close Contact cases:

1.   Living in the same household with a COVID-19 case.

2.   Sitting next to the case in the bus or class.

3.   Being in close proximity (less than 2m) with the confirmed case for a period of more than 15 minutes.

4.   Physically touching a person who has COVID-19 (for example shaking hands without washing or sanitizing afterwards).

5.   Sharing or holding items after a COVID-19 case and not washing/sanitizing your hands afterwards.

6.   Eating together (either side by side or across the table) in close proximity, (less than 2m apart) or sharing utensils.

What would happen if a family member of the RIS student tests positive for COVID-19?

If a **Parent/Sibling** tests **positive** for **COVID-19**, all **family members** of the household are considered **Primary (Close) Contacts** and must **isolate for 14 days** at home.

As per DHA Protocol:

- **PCR test is not mandatory** for **Close Contacts**. Monitoring to look for symptoms is necessary. A **PCR test** must be taken **if symptoms develop**.

- COVID-19 Nasal Swab **PCR test is not required** for Student/Staff who is identified as a **Close Contact**, unless the Student/Staff develops signs and symptoms, but completion of **14 days' quarantine is mandatory**.

What would happen if RIS Student tests positive for COVID-19?

With regard to any reported **positive confirmed COVID-19** case at School, the instructions are to be followed as per **DHA Protocol**.

1) The **DHA** would **be informed** and would make **contact with the Family**.
2) The **DHA** would allocate the **Investigation Team** and together with the **School Health and Safety Team** would trace **Close Contacts**.
3) **Student** would have to **quarantine for 14 days** and symptoms would be monitored.
4) **Student** who is in **home isolation** will continue his/her education through **Distance Learning**.
5) School would monitor all the procedures that are put in place to ensure everyone's Health and Safety.
6) School is to prevent Students from bullying their peers who were diagnosed or suspected to have COVID-19.
7) The **School Nurse** will do a **virtual check up** with the **Affected Person / Close Contact** that he/she does not have any symptoms and are well. This will take place 1 to 2 days before rejoining the School.
8) If the Affected Person/Close Contact are given the **all clear during the virtual check-up**, he/she may return to School.
On arrival to School, he/she must attend the School Clinic before going into class where the Nurse will conduct a **final assessment** before being allowed to resume learning at School.
9) The child **cannot return to School** until they have **quarantined for 14 days**, have received a **negative PCR test result,** and being free of any symptoms. and have obtained the **Clearance Certificate from the treating healthcare facility** or from the **DHA** by calling **800588.**

IF SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:

- **Covid-19 symptoms** - *fever ≥37.50 °, cough, body ache or fatigue, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, diarrhea and nausea, headache, loss of sense of smell or taste*
- A **School Policy** of **"Staying at Home if Unwell"** for students showing symptoms of Covid-19 should be enforced.
- 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 a student shows **symptoms of Covid-19 while at School**, he/she will be **instantly isolated** to the designated medical room; the **Parent/Guardian** of

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

- 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.
- If a Student/Staff Member is identified as a **Close Contact to Covid-19** patient, he/she should stay at home (**14-day quarantine**) and monitor health.
- If waiting for COVID-19 test results, and/or instructed by DHA to self-isolate, the Student/Staff Member must do so immediately.

Covid-19 CASE DEFINITIONS:

- **Suspected Covid-19 case** is defined as the Patient who:

- presents respiratory symptoms with or without fever ≥37.50 °

- 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 case** is defined as the Patient who:

- has 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.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AND HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PARENTS:

Educate children 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.