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17 June 2021

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dear Parents/Guardians

COVID 19 PANDEMIC ENVIRONMENT AT SCHOOLS

The current situation with COVID -19 is a great concern to all stakeholders. To ensure the health and safety of our learners, staff and the whole school community, we need to act responsibly to ensure that we are safe, thus protecting our families.

1. All contact sports has been suspended by the Gauteng Department of Education on the advice of the Health Department which states that all contact sports are seen as super spreader activities.
No soccer, netball or any ball games are allowed before school, during breaks or after school
NB: All contact extra/co-curricular activities are suspended until further notice. We will continue with Physical Education during class time so that learners get some physical activity.

We need all the support from our parents to ensure the following:

- 1.1 **DROP OFF TIME: 06:45 -07:30**
- 1.2 **PICK UP TIME: LEARNERS MUST BE PICKED UP BY 14:30. (AFTER 15:00/3 o'clock all assistants are off duty)**
- 1.3 **No learner will be allowed on to the school grounds after 15:00/ 3 o'clock.**

2. PARENTS WE URGE YOU TO ASSIST THE SCHOOL

- 2.1 Ensure that your child has a re-usable, washable cloth mask that is clearly marked with their name. No sharing of masks amongst learners. Please explain the importance of NOT removing the masks and how to use the mask safely, including wearing mask in the transport and removing the mask when they get home. **PLEASE WASH MASK REGULARLY.**
- 2.2 Disposal masks are permitted. Note it is meant for once off use.
- 2.3 Ensure that your child has a spare mask in his/her bag.
- 2.4 Ensure that your child has his/her screening exit tag that allows your child to enter the school safely.
- 2.5 Encourage them to adhere to social distancing during breaks and after school.
- 2.6 Social distance also implies not touching other learner's property, handshaking, fist-bumping, hugging, pushing or pulling etc. Please teach your children the importance of this and how to observe social distancing at school and home.
- 2.7 Please sanitize all the learner's bags, lunch boxes, etc. before school starts and make a habit of sanitizing or washing their property every night with soap and bleach water.

Please take 5 minutes in the morning and check your child, monitor their temperature and ensure that your child is healthy to come to school.

Pay particular attention to:

- ▶ Fever (temperature 38 °C or higher)
 - ▶ Sore throat
 - ▶ New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for a child with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, see if there is a change from their usual cough)
 - ▶ Diarrhea, vomiting, or stomachache
 - ▶ New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- 2.8 DO NOT send your child to school if he/she are not feeling well for any reason.
- 2.9 Collect your child immediately when the school comes out.
- 2.10 Nobody knows who the carrier of the virus is, and if children continue to play around and be negligent during these times, it would cause a total shut –down of Meyerspark Primary School.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND THIS.

3. LEARNER TRANSPORT

Passenger bus services, taxi services and private cars transporting learners to school.

Before learner/s gets in the vehicles all operators MUST ensure that:

- Vehicles are cleaned and disinfected before picking up and after dropping off learner/s.
- Provide adequate hand sanitiser of 60% alcohol content. At regular intervals, disinfection equipment with 70% alcohol content.
- Transport vehicles' doors and window, handles, armrests and handrails are cleaned/wiped with a disinfectant before picking up and after dropping off learners.
- All passengers (learners) must wear a mask.
- Learners' hands are sanitised before getting into the vehicle.
- All the vehicles MUST have enough and proper ventilation. Windows need to be open and remain open when transporting passengers (learners).

PARENTS MAKING USE OF PRIVATE TRANSPORT PLEASE INFORM THE DRIVER ABOUT THE IMPORTANT PREVENTATIVE MEASURES AND THAT DRIVERS/PARENTS MUST WAIT UNTIL THE CHILD HAS ENTERED THE SCHOOL SAFELY.

As a school, we must protect and safeguard all our learners and staff members. Our first step in preventing an outbreak of the virus at school starts at home with you.

4. The standard Operational Procedures (SOP) provided to schools by the Department of Basic Education regarding the management of COVID -19:

4.1 Action to be taken when a case of COVID -19 is confirmed:

(copy of the covid -19 test results must be provide to school)

- ▶ The learner/staff member must isolate at home for 10 days, and may not attend school.
- ▶ The learner or staff member may return to school 10 days after the onset of symptoms(mild cases) or return 10 days after the date of testing positive or if asymptomatic. In severe cases e.g., hospitalisation/placed on a ventilator, the learner or staff member may return to school 10 says after clinical stability has been established, e.g., after oxygen has stopped.
- ▶ The case is reported to the Department of Education.
- ▶ The staff and parents are informed including the specific class and close contacts.
- ▶ Environmental decontamination and disinfection in the work area/classroom that the person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis has been in.

4.2 **Action to be taken when a learner may have been exposed to a suspected/probable case of COVID-**

19, or a suspected case but is awaiting test results or for whom testing for COVID -19 is inconclusive as reported by the laboratory.

- ▶ If a learner or staff member has been in contact with a suspected case of COVID -19 in a school, no restrictions or special control measures are required until the laboratory test results for COVID 19 have been received.
- ▶ Schools maintain COVID 19 related preventative intervention and symptom screening.

4.3 Action to be taken when a learner or staff may have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID -19 during or outside the school hours during the period of infectivity.

- ▶ The classroom/workplace in which the learner or staff member was present must be closed off and thoroughly decontaminated by cleaning and sanitising the affected areas.
- ▶ **In the case of HIGH RISK, (face –to-face contact of less than 1m for more than 15 minutes without a mask, face shield or face covering) and the learner is asymptomatic:**
 - The learner/s must not attend school and must quarantine at home for 10 days and self-check for symptoms until 10 days since exposure to COVID -19.
 - Monitor and evaluate for early return to school on day 11 post exposure. If the learner and staff member is well and have no symptoms compatible with COVID -19, return to school and follow school protocols.

Please do not send your child to school should you suspect or know that he/she has been in direct contact with a person that has been diagnosed with COVID -19, this might put lives at risk.

The closure of the entire school is an extreme measure that will only be considered and recommended by the head of the department after consultation, prior to implementation.

We are guided by the Department of Education in everything we do.


Be safe.

Sanitise and wash hands with soap and water.


Wear your mask and

Maintain your social distance of 1, 5 m.

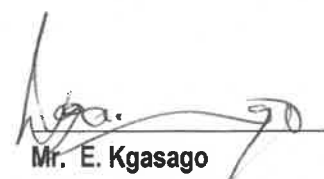
Yours sincerely



Mr. O Vermeulen
Principal



Mr. G Brown
Deputy Principal



Mr. E. Kgasago
SGB-chairperson