



STAY SAFE. SAVE LIVES.

Back to School

Our schools may look and feel a bit different – but let our children be ready to “enter to learn” safely!

New rules and behaviours to keep us all safe.

Dear Parent

Welcome back to school!

I know that many of you feel anxious about sending your child to school. This is a natural feeling for a parent, especially in light of the circumstances we are all in. South Africa is experiencing challenging times amidst the global Corona Virus pandemic.

Medical evidence suggests that children are not generally significant spreaders of the virus. However, it is important that certain safety and hygiene protocols and measures such as physical distancing, the wearing of masks and the constant cleaning of hands and surfaces, are adhered to. The WCED has developed 14 guidelines on “Managing Covid-19 at schools” in order to guide schools on how to ensure your child and their teachers safety – which can be read here:

<https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/back-school>

You as a parent have an important role to play. Please inform yourselves of these guidelines and ensure that you communicate to your children the following “**5 golden rules**” and changes in behaviour that they will encounter in their school. The more informed we all are, the more we change our behaviour to one that promotes good hygiene and safety practices.

Ultimately, safety in schools during these Covid-19 times does require that every learner and teacher at schools adheres to these safety guidelines and protocols. It is a team effort to ensure that our children, their teachers and your family remain safe.

Thank you.

Brian Schreuder
Head of Department

The five golden rules for safety

- 1 Keep a distance of at least 1.5 metres (2 arm lengths) from others.
- 2 Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- 3 Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue and then put the tissue in a bin.
- 4 Use a cloth face mask to cover your nose and mouth.
- 5 Stay home if you feel unwell.

Before and on their way to school – learners must:

- Wash their hands before leaving their home
- Wear a mask
- Keep at least a 1.5 metre distance from other people when walking to school.
- Sanitise their hands before entering and after disembarking from public transport.



On arrival at school – learners must:

- Go directly to the designated screening area to be screened.
- Stand 1.5m apart if there is a queue for screening.
- Answer the questions that are posed to them on their health
- Wait for permission to enter the school
- Sanitise or wash their hands before entry



New behaviours at school

- Learners must wear a mask in class
- Your child may be asked to sit at a new desk
- Desks will be arranged 1 metre apart
- No sharing of stationery, juice bottles or food.
- When eating lunch, learners can take off their masks. They must keep it safely on their desks and remove it by the straps.
- We know all learners are excited to go play with their friends at break time – but they must remember to keep their distance.
- Learners must avoid congregating in areas such as the toilet facilities.



Masks

- All learners will be given 2 cloth masks on arrival back at school
- Learners must wash their hands before putting on the mask
- Mouth and nose must be covered
- Learners must avoid touching their face or mask throughout the day
- Take off the mask by holding it by the elastic bands only
- Wash it in warm water and iron your cloth mask every day



Visit <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/back-school> for more information or videos on screening and learner safety in schools

