



The Settlers High School

22 May 2020

Dear Grade 12 Parents and Learners

IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE RETURN OF MATRICS ON 1 JUNE 2020

As Minister Motshekga announced last Tuesday evening, school for Grade 12's will resume on Monday, 1 June 2020.

Although the building and the people will be familiar to our learners, the sad reality is that we had to change how we do things to ensure the health and safety of all.

We would therefore like to take this opportunity to provide you with answers to questions you may have:

Question: Will my child be safe?

Before any learner or staff member enters the school building, they will be temperature scanned and thoroughly screened. Any individual that fails the screening process will be isolated and not allowed to enter the building.

As mentioned previously, each child will be provided with 4 masks which (along with all other adults) must be worn at all times. If you wish to provide your child with a visor, you are more than welcome to do so.

Regular sanitising and/or washing of hands will be encouraged throughout the day and we have made sure that hand sanitiser stations are spread throughout the building.

Any touchpoints such as desks, light switches, door handles, bathrooms, stair-well railings, floors and more, will be sanitised regularly.

Note that your child **must** attend the compulsory safety briefing before any learning can take place on our premises.

The Settlers High School

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Question: How will social distancing be ensured at school?

From the moment your child enters the school gate the following must be observed:

- Social distancing of 1.5 meters is compulsory in the corridors, classrooms, bathrooms, and in general while moving around the school.
- A new timetable has been created especially for the Grade 12's and the classroom sizes will be reduced by 50% to ensure that social distancing is maintained. Each learner will be assigned a specific desk to use and must not use any other desk.
- Should more than one learner be required to use the same desk, the desk will be sanitised in-between lessons.
- There will be no big gatherings of learners. As a result, all assemblies, grade meetings, sport/cultural activities, as well as Physical Education will not be included in the school's programme until it is safe to do so.
- During non-academic times (such as breaks) social distancing will be expected and enforced.

As a young adult we expect your child to obey this law to ensure a safe environment for all.

Question: What about the school uniform?

We are still finalising our uniform requirements as we are considering special arrangements for the duration of the lockdown. The matter is complicated due to permit requirements and public transport. More in-depth details will follow next week.

Question: What are my options for my child completing the Matric Year?

1. Your child returns as planned to school on 1 June 2020 and continues his/her education in this new COVID-19 schooling environment where safety is a priority.
2. If your child has a co-morbidity, you can request in writing that he/she can continue to **learn from home** as was the case for the last two months of lockdown. This request must be supported with a medical report from the relevant medical practitioner. You can apply for this concession by emailing Mrs Gallie at principal@settlers.org.za by no later than Tuesday, 26 May 2020.

If you fear for your child's safety at school and you are considering keeping your child at home for the rest of the year, we strongly encourage you to contact Mrs Gallie to discuss the matter as soon as possible.

Despite the unknowns and uncertainties caused by COVOID-19, we are confident that we are ready to welcome our learners back to school.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us

Kind regards,

Mrs S Gallie
Principal