



DOHA ENGLISH SPEAKING SCHOOL

Learning Together • High Expectations • Celebrating Success



THE *Reopening* ROADMAP

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A letter from the **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families are keeping well in these uncertain times and I also hope your children are looking forward to returning to some degree of normality with regards to their schooling.

In line with the Ministries of both Education and Public Health, we are pleased to share our return to school plans with you. These will start from Sunday 6th September. We have thought carefully about these plans and we have involved many groups in the formation of these plans. These groups include: our Board of Governors, the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Education and an Infection Control expert. As per the MoE (Ministry of Education) guidelines schools will finish at 1.30pm.

Our plans are to ensure we do our utmost to protect the health, safety and well-being of all our children, staff and parents during this time of a global pandemic. It is also important to note that there may be further changes made to schools so this information represents the current most up to date information. Obviously any changes to our plans will be communicated to our DESS community through our normal channels of communication which include Class dojo and also Engage. As well as a well thought out National Curriculum, our school is going to make sure we support the children with this transition back to school. We realise the children will have been at home for a long period of time so there may be some anxiety issues when they return to school. The mental health of your children is as equally important as their academic achievement. We are confident that our caring and supportive staff, alongside the comprehensive arrangements we have put in place will ensure the children return to school safely but also return to school excited and happy to take on the new challenges they will face.

Finally we appreciate your patience and support during these unprecedented times.

Kind regards,

S. Sibley
Sean Sibley





Classes

ATTENDING SCHOOL

Half a Class Per Day

Attendance will be half a class per day. This means there will be no more than 15 children in each class area on any given day. Each class has been split into two groups A and B. This has been done by alphabetically ordering the surnames of the children. This will hopefully mean that those children with siblings can attend on the same days each week.

This means that Group A attend school physically on Sunday whilst the other half of the class (Group B) complete home Learning at home. On Monday Group B attend school whilst Group A complete Home Learning.

Home Learning

When children are at home working on extended tasks, their teacher cannot communicate regularly with them nor respond to messages from parents as obviously they will be teaching the other half of the class. However at the end of each day when your child is in school they will be given the sheets and work they will complete for their Home Learning Day. They will then bring in this work on the following day when they attend school. Work will be marked and any issues that have arisen can be dealt with by their class teacher when they are actually in school. The work your child will be doing at home will complement the teaching and learning they are part of in school.





Drop off and Pick up

TIMES AND LOCATIONS

The school gates, parent car park and drop-off zone will open at 7.10am and close at 8.00am. Registration times will differ slightly to allow for less congestion:

Key Stage	Registration begins	Registration ends
Key Stage 2 (Years 3,4,5 and 6)	7.40am	7.50am
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)	7.30am	7.40am
FS2	7.20am	7.40am
FS1	7.20am	7.40am

Key Stage 2 parents (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) are required to drop their children off at the gates. Children are to make their own way to their classrooms.

Key Stage 1 and FS2 parents are allowed to bring their children on to the covered playground where they will be met by members of staff to take the children to their classrooms. We ask parents to adhere to social distancing when they are on the covered playground and not to enter the school site until the times detailed above.

To assist with drop-off, siblings with older children in the school will be welcome to arrive at their classroom from 7.10am.

Once the children arrive in their classrooms their temperature will be taken. Parents of any children with a temperature above 38 degrees will be telephoned and asked to collect their child from the front office area. We have an isolation room available for these children.

Foundation Stage 1 (FS1) FS1 drop-off and pick-up is from the school garden gate.



Pick up **TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

Key Stage	Day ends
Key Stage 2 (Years 3,4,5 and 6)	1.30pm
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)	1.15pm
FS2	1.00pm
FS1	12.45pm

On Thursdays FS1, FS2 and KS1 will finish at 12:45pm. KS2 will finish at 1pm.

School gates will close at 1:45pm Sunday - Wednesday and 1:30pm on Thursday.

Parents are permitted to enter the school to pick up their children at the end of the school day. However we kindly request that in order to keep the number of people on site to a minimum, parents wait on the shaded playground area and once their child has been collected they leave the school site immediately. To assist with pick up times, children with older siblings in the school will be able to remain in their classroom until 1.30pm. Parents are not allowed to go down the corridors to classrooms or enter the classrooms. **Additional school staff are available in the class areas to help the children with any problems or issues. Parents are also able to communicate through the Class dojo system with their child's teacher or Teaching Assistants.**

Children will be led onto the covered playground. Please identify an area to ensure that your child knows where to find you. It is important to note that we will be opening an additional gate for parents to exit the school and that we request all children and parents to immediately leave the school site once they have collected their children. We want to minimise the number of people on site at any one time. We appreciate your support and understanding with this.





Car **PARKING**

The car park is open, but entry is from Gate 5.



Break **TIMES**

Due to the weather and high humidity, all breaks will be within the classroom. Children will remain in their seats to eat their snacks.



Supplies **FOR YOUR CHILD**

Please ensure your child has a clearly visible label stating their name, class and their teacher's name on their shirt for the first week of school. This will help our staff guide them to their correct classroom as quickly as possible. Your child must also bring their own pencil case containing a pencil, sharpener, rubber, ruler and a selection of colouring crayons. KS2 children will also need a writing pen. Your child's water will be kept on their desk throughout the day, please ensure it is labelled. It is advisable for your child to bring more than one water container.





Face **MASKS**

All adults, including parents and visitors are required to wear masks when walking around the school site. Children do not have to wear masks as per the Ministry of Public Health guidelines.



Practising **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

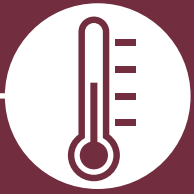
All staff will adhere to the two metre social distancing rule. Safe distance reminders are in place to remind adults and children to keep to a safe distance. Children are taught in their own classrooms. They will not be moving around the school except to visit bathrooms when necessary. Each class is to become a support bubble and will not be allowed to mix with the students in other classes.



School **HYGIENE**

All staff will regularly use hand sanitiser and wear masks when moving around the school. All furniture, door handles and surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day. DESS have increased the number of cleaners (we have doubled the number of cleaners every day) and intensified the cleaning schedule with particular focus on shared areas such as toilets, surfaces and school halls. All staff will adhere to the two metre social distancing rule.

Extra cleaners have been arranged who will regularly clean and disinfect toilet and common areas. They will assist the teachers where necessary.



Daily **HEALTH CHECKS**

All children will have their temperature taken once they are seated in their own seat. Any child with a high temperature will be taken to the Quarantine room which is going to be the Computer room near the main entrance of the school where screening is available. Parents will be contacted immediately.



School **PARENTS AND VISITORS**

Only visitors showing a Green Code on the Ehteraz App will be granted access.

All visitors entering the buildings for meetings will require their temperature to be recorded. We are not recording temperatures for drop off and pick up. We would like parents to support the school by only coming in to the school office area if absolutely necessary. As you know many jobs can now be done online but please email the school for any guidance or if you have an issues related to you child.



School **LIBRARY**

The library is closed until further notice.



Specialist **LESSONS**

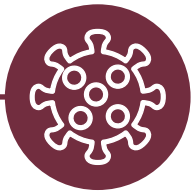
PE, Arabic, French, Islamic Studies, IT and Music are taught within your child's classroom.

Parents will be informed when the school decide to re-open the pool.



Extra **CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Private and school run ECAs will begin once the Ministry have deemed it safe to do so and all the necessary checks have taken place.



Procedures **FOR UNWELL CHILDREN**

If your child has a temperature please do not bring them into school. This includes those with a fever, sore throat and/or coughing. In these circumstances your child must stay at home and will only be accepted back into school once they provide a valid doctor's note which is no older than 24 hours. If your child's temperature is raised (above 38 degrees) the school will contact you to collect them. The school will require a Doctor's note prior to your child returning to school. If a member of staff or child is diagnosed with Covid-19 then the whole class, including staff members must quarantine at home for a period of two weeks.



Frequently **ASKED QUESTIONS**

We would like to remind our parents that all those arriving in Qatar must adhere to the MOPH guidelines for quarantine. Children are not permitted in school unless their parents have the green status on their Ehteraz App.

All parents and visitors must show their DESS ID and Ehteraz App before entering the school. All parents and visitors over the age of 12 must wear a mask when on the school site.

Must I have a DESS ID pass?

Yes. If you do not as yet have a DESS ID pass, please enter via Gate 1 (Al Maarri St) where you will be issued a Visitors Pass in exchange for your QID/Passport.

How do I apply and pick up a new DESS ID?

Please email secretary@dess.org for the relevant application form. Pick up will be from the Front Office.

Can I send my driver/carer to collect my child?

Yes. Please ensure that you have notified the teacher ahead of time. If your driver/carer does not have a DESS ID, please forward a separate application.

What is the procedure if there is a positive case in school?

The school nurse will inform the Ministry of Public Health about any positive cases in school. All direct contacts with the positive case will be tested (Family, teachers, children from the same bubble or other bubbles). The Ministry of Public Health will decide if school classes will be closed based on the pandemic assessment and laboratory tests. No suspected child or employee, or those in contact with any confirmed case will be allowed to reenter the school for a period of less than 2 weeks. If a child is sent to the health center, the child's parent needs to obtain a report from the doctor that allows him/her to enter the school after he/she proves that he/she is cured of the virus.

What will be done to 'close any potential gap' in my child/ren's learning?

Throughout the remote learning period our teachers have still been using summative and formative data in relation to the children's

academic progress and achievement. Although the priority from the 6th September will be to settle the children back in to school and help them with their emotional and social needs, our smaller class sizes will enable us to focus on helping those children who need additional help but also help to extend those children who are more able. We will still have our Learning Support department who will be involved with particular children and ensuring that we do everything we can to identify any areas of concern and supporting children. Obviously we will make sure that the children feel safe and confident throughout this process.

Will the bus service still be offered by Tri logistics?

As you will have recently heard, unfortunately Tri logistics Bus Company is now not operating so there will be no bus service. This has always been a private arrangement between parents and the bus company however if school hears of another suitable company that is operating a service then we will let you know.

Will there be school trips?

There will be no school trips until further notice.

Are there any medical exemptions to returning to school?

Following the Ministry of Public Health's guidance, any child who suffers chronic diseases or whose parents suffer chronic medical conditions, as supported by an approved medical report, are exempted from attending school. An approved medical certificate and a national address certificate must be submitted to school.

What do I do if I have any questions or concerns?

If you would like further information regarding our health and safety procedures please contact our Health and Safety Officer, Mrs Nicola Murray, on: nicola@dess.org.



Sean Sibley School Principal
Charlotte Molloy Head of School