



Solefield School

19th April 2022

Prevention of the spread of Covid 19

Hygiene, cleaning and ventilation

A range of approaches and actions adopted by the school are considered to aid the prevention of the transmission of Covid 19. These include:

- minimizing contact with individuals who are unwell by suggesting that those who have coronavirus symptoms do not attend school. IAPS guidelines suggest 5 days or until non-symptomatic for adults and 3 days for pupils.
- washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and drying them thoroughly or using alcohol hand rub or sanitizer ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered. In the case of the Pre-Prep children, in particular, there is supervision of how they wash and sanitize their hands by staff. Regular times during the school day have been provided for this. The school has invested in six additional hand sanitizing stations for staff and pupils.
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach. Tissues, sanitizer and lidded or double-bagged bins are provided in all classrooms. Posters have been displayed to ensure that the messages are promoted clearly and regularly in language appropriate to the age group concerned.
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces using anti-bacterial and anti-viral products, such as detergents and bleach.
- ventilation in all rooms is enhanced and is monitored closely.
- the cleaners continue to clean all areas of the school to a high standard and disinfect classrooms and other rooms that are used with focus on high risk areas such as toilets, door handles, switches, hand rails and regularly used hard surfaces.
- all desk areas whether for staff or pupils are used under a 'clear desk' policy to allow the cleaners to disinfect areas used daily.

Impact on mental health

- Staff are ever watchful for pupils struggling with increased stress, low mood or worries related to the Covid 19 pandemic.
- Staff are aware of the effects of reduced socialization with peers on pupils of different ages over the last 2 years and the impact this may have on their emotional maturity and make allowances for this.
- The school has a clear Wellbeing and Mental Health Policy
- Pupils are supported at the school through Wellbeing Hubs, Wellbeing lessons and Wellbeing dogs for pupils and staff and pastoral support, talk time and counselling.

- The Wellbeing Staff Team and SLT will monitor staff welfare carefully with individualized care.
- The school counsellor has given support presentations to parents and she and Mrs Koheji are on hand for advice and support.
- Staff work very closely with parents.

Helen McClure

Headmistress