

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Action Plan at ISS for COVID-19

1. Prevention –

- A letter has been sent out to the parents, which focuses on awareness about the Coronavirus.
- Awareness posters are put around the school.
- Emphasis during registration-time by teachers on actions such as staying home when sick; appropriately covering coughs and sneezes; cleaning frequently touched surfaces; and washing hands often
- Information-sharing systems can be used for day-to-day reporting (*on information such as changes in absenteeism*) and disease surveillance efforts to detect and respond to an outbreak.
- Consultation and coordination with the National Health Dept., and/or Ministry of Health.
- Health Officers and school nurse to deliver a special session to the Schoolteachers on Thu, 5th Mar 2020 at 2:30 pm.
- We encourage parents to supplement children with Vitamin C.

2. Preparedness on our part will be following steps such as:

- Continuous cycle of assembly talks.
- Talks by Form tutors during registration.
- Sharing regular updates with parents and students, from local health officials and WHO through our parent portal and PTA FB page.
- Monitoring the situation closely via different verified mediums such as the updates from the Ministry of Health, Newspapers, National TV, and FM Radio.
- Alert local health officials about large increases in student and staff absenteeism, particularly if absences appear due to respiratory illnesses (like the common cold or the “flu,” which have symptoms similar to symptoms of COVID-19).

- **Continuous supply and administration of liquid soap in toilet; hand sanitizers in the school campus – at all four entrances and common areas. All primary classrooms will have sanitizers for students.**
 - ❖ **We have procured the most advanced dispensers which will be installed by Monday, 9th March 2020.**
 - ❖ **The hand-sanitizer we have got are as per the international standards against microbial species like bacteria, viruses, fungus and yeast. It's effect lasts for 6 hours after application.**
- **Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, countertops) with the cleaners typically used.**
- **Teachers have been instructed to prepare notes, assignments, study material etc. for two weeks in advance that can be shared via Google Classroom and emails.**
- **All the students from Y7 till Y13 are regularly accessing their emails and contents uploaded on Google classroom.**
- **Y5 and Y6 students do have their own email IDs and are encouraged to access the Google Classroom.**

The Emergency Operation Plan (EOP)

3. **Response** - The response to the occurrence of outbreak of Novel Coronavirus COVID-19, ISS will review the situation in two ways –
- A positive case confirmed by the Ministry of Health
 - A case outside of school will be investigated. We should try and establish if the confirmed patient had any contact with the ISS community, pupils or staff. BOG/SLT may take a call on the situation and decide to close the school if any link is established. Local health officials' recommendations for the scope (e.g., a single school, or all schools) and duration of school dismissals will be made on a case-by-case basis based on the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 in the impacted community.
 - A confirmed case reported within the school.
 - In case it is a confirmed positive case, the school will have an emergency BOG/SLT Meeting and a decision to close the school for a minimum of two weeks (*which is the minimum required quarantine period for Coronavirus illness*). There could be an extension to this two-week closure based on further developments.
 - In the event of closure of school, we will review continuity plans, including plans for the continuity of teaching and learning. Implement e-learning plans, including digital and distance learning options.
 - Teachers to provide the study material and assignments online via Google Classroom.
 - Possible Skype lessons/interactions with the students.
 - All internal tests, exams or assessments stand cancelled until further notice.
 - For primary school (*excluding Y5 and Y6*), parents need to check their emails regularly for shared folders, resources and assignments.
 - All events such as after-school clubs, Parents' meetings, field trips, and sporting events stand cancelled.

4. **Recovery** - School will make an official announcement of the reopening date.
- This decision will be taken by the BOG/SLT after carefully reviewing the situation. We will also follow the directives from the Government of Seychelles and the Ministry of Health as well.
 - First week will be dedicated to establishing routine and checking on the online work provided during the contingency period.
 - The school nurse will closely monitor the students and staff.
 - Any further suspected cases will be forwarded immediately to the Ministry of Health for their review and diagnosis.
5. **Mitigation** This process will involve the prevention and preparedness to reduce loss of teaching and learning through developing structural and non-structural educational measures.
- Curriculum to be reviewed and revised in consultation with the HODs, Head of Primary and the Principal.
 - Extra lessons to be arranged for some subjects, if required.
 - Teachers can get some extra lessons or give their lessons to other teachers with mutual consent and with prior information and approval of the Senior Leadership Team.
 - Some planned activities may need to be cancelled or postponed, to continue with teaching and learning within the classroom.

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