

The British School



Caroline Drumm
Principal

P.O. Box 566, Jhamsikhel, Patan
Kathmandu, Nepal

15th September 2021

Upcoming School Reopening

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know that we have successfully received the required permission from the local authority to officially reopen. In addition to this, we have collated the results of our school survey. Parents overwhelmingly support the reopening of the school and 91% of you wish us to reopen.

Although the risk of COVID has not vanished, we feel that the school has systems to minimise the impact on the school community. We will be continually monitoring the situation and, when we open, we have the ability to move from onsite to online learning for groups of children if it becomes necessary. This would be a targeted approach based on need rather than indiscriminate action which has an unnecessary negative impact on the whole school.

Therefore we are looking at when is the most appropriate time to reopen. Primary students can return to school for full days from Monday, September 20th. Due to the current numbers of Secondary staff self-isolating, we may delay this for Secondary for a few days to give us the opportunity to reassess the situation and ensure that it is the right decision for this group of students and we have the appropriate staffing in place for face to face teaching. We will be in touch in the coming days about the Secondary timeline.

Although we are planning for a full reopening, we also recognise that some children may still need online provision for a few more weeks. Therefore we will also continue access to online support, certainly until at least the end of Term 1. Later this week, you will receive more information about the timings of the school day for your children's specific year groups as it is important for social distancing that we continue to stagger arrivals and departures.

At TBS we feel that our staff are well prepared to reopen and that we do have the appropriate processes to reduce the risks to our learners. These include:

a) PREVENTATIVE MEASURES including making best use of our spacious campus, social distancing throughout the day, staggered entry and exit, educating students on how to stay safe, good hand hygiene, additional cleaning and sanitising, no large gatherings, limited visitors, quarantine for overseas travellers, vaccinated staff, sound policies and procedures based on best international and local practice etc.

Patron: H.E.The British Ambassador

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b) IDENTIFICATION MEASURES including having 2 full time nurses on site, temperature checks for everyone entering the campus, training for staff on symptoms to look out for in children and adults, dedicated isolation rooms for suspected cases, a robust internal track and trace policy, Rapid Antigen Testing onsite, self-isolation policies etc.

c) COVID SUPPORT MEASURES including links with local hospitals, alternative learning for students who may be contagious or being monitored as a close contact but well enough to continue to study, support and monitoring from our trained nursing staff etc.

It is important to recognise that Covid cases may still occur in the school community, however we will deal with them swiftly and robustly to minimise the risk of wider infection. This is why it is essential that staff, students and parents follow our health and safety procedures. If you have any questions about these, please contact us and we will be happy to talk through our protocols. When cases do occur, we will move to online learning for those groups of children who are impacted by staff or student self-isolation or close contacts.

I look forward to welcoming you and your children to the campus.

Yours Sincerely
Ms. Caro Drumm
Principal

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