



FAQ: CONFRONTING COVID-19

Q1. Are your teachers and employees vaccinated?

Yes, our teachers, employees, security guards and cleaners are fully vaccinated. Unvaccinated teachers will not be allowed to teach face-to-face in the school.

Q2. Do students, teachers and visitors have to wear mask in INCS?

Yes. Face masks are mandatory within school grounds. Double masks are encouraged.

Q3. Do I need to inform my child's school if my workplace has a confirmed case?

It is not necessary to inform the school if your workplace has a confirmed case unless it is you or someone in your immediate household who is a confirmed case. If you or a member of your household have been issued a self-quarantine order and your child is in kindergarten or primary school, keep the school informed. Please continue to adopt good personal hygiene practices and seek medical assistance immediately if you or your child are not feeling well.

Q4. What do I do if my child develops symptoms?

Students with symptoms are not allowed to enter school. We seek the co-operation of parents and guardians to check if your child has any symptoms before sending them to school.

Q5. Why is my child sent home when he does not seem to have a fever? How are schools assessing if a child is unwell?

INCS conducts a daily temperature-taking practice. If a child's temperature is 37.5 °C or higher, the school will contact the parents to ask that their child be taken to see a doctor. We will also monitor for other flu-like symptoms such as coughing and runny nose and will suggest to the parent to see a doctor.

There are also times when a child may inform his teacher that he is unwell, even though he may not be running a fever or showing symptoms. In these cases, we hope students and parents can all play their part to help protect all of us in the INCS community by seeing a doctor first before coming to school. Students should return to school only when they have fully recovered.

Q6. Does INCS review the precautionary measures that are in place in schools from time to time?

INCS reviews public measures and closely monitors the situation. We will take the necessary precautionary measures as the situation evolves, according to the government's guidelines and SOPs. But we all can and should continue to do our part to protect ourselves by adopting good hygiene habits, observing social distancing and practicing social responsibility by seeking medical attention if we are unwell.

Q7. Can schools be one of the safer place for students?

Staff and students are already on extra alert. We are calling on all our teachers and staff to help keep the school safe. Hygiene is a major determinant of the risk of transmission, so personal and group hygiene standards have been raised. There is constant supervision -- especially for younger students -- and reminders for all students to wash their hands regularly and avoid touching their faces. As a group, students will clean up after use. For activities, we have scaled down mass activities to minimize unnecessary inter-mingling of students.

Q8. Will the school provide hand sanitizers?

Personal hygiene is indeed important. The best option is to wash our hands thoroughly and regularly with soap. Toilets in our schools are well stocked with liquid soap. We will also be stepping up the cleaning of toilets, sinks and dining areas to ensure that they are clean.

As an added precaution, our school will also provide hand-sanitizers in common areas such as the main entrance, reception area, classroom corridors, outside the toilets, cafeteria and staff room.

Some individuals may also be sensitive to hand sanitizers. In addition, the school is providing all classrooms and common areas with Kangen pH 2.5 Strong Acidic Water as a chemical-free hand and surface sanitizer.

Q9. Can we be assured that there will be no infection in the school?

We have posed ourselves this difficult question, which deserves an honest answer. We cannot ensure that there will not be an infection in our school. If there is a community-wide outbreak, chances are some students may be infected. We will do everything we can to make the school one of the safer environments in that scenario.

Q10. Are sports and Co-Curriculum Activities allowed?

Co-curriculum activities are still not allowed. Physical Education (PJK) lessons may be allowed but students must wear their sports outfit from home to avoid overcrowding in schools. INCS will adhere to the latest SOPs from the Ministry of Education for the safety and well-being of all our students.

Q11. Even if the school is safe, how about the journey to and from school?

We will advise our transportation operators to maintain a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene. But as commuters, we should also play our part. Remind your child to wash his or her hands with soap before the journey and to not to touch their face unnecessarily. When they are in school, they will be reminded to clean their hands throughout the school day.

Q12. Where will they have their meal breaks?

Students must eat in their classes during recess, and avoid sharing food and utensils.

Q13. How will the school support students who are placed on quarantine?

For any student placed on self-quarantine (14 days), their teachers will call them regularly to check on their physical and emotional well-being, as well as support them with their school work. When the student returns to school, we will continue to look out for them to ensure that they are able to adjust to the current school routine. School counsellors will follow up with students who may require further support.

Supporting students in their coursework may involve a variety of methods. For example, the school may assign specific assignments or readings from textbooks. Updates will be issued to students and parents accordingly.

Q14. I understand that primary school and kindergarten students who live in close contact with Patients Under Investigation (PUI) also need to observe a Self-Quarantine. Why is this necessary?

The Self-Quarantine Order (SQO) is issued to healthy persons who have recently returned from specified high-risk countries, and for those in close contact with a confirmed case. There may be young children living in the same household, and being young, they may not be aware of the precautions they need to take to protect themselves when staying with someone on SQO. The school has decided to take the step of issuing SQO to these young children as an additional precautionary measure. This will give their fellow students and parents added assurance.

Q15. Are vendors/suppliers, cleaners, security team, cafe staff, freelance coaches also covered under the self-quarantine measure?

Yes. The self-quarantine provisions cover the persons as mentioned above.

Q17. What are the precautions I should take regarding Covid-19?

In line with global health advisories, we advise you to take the following precautions:

- a) Maintain a safe distance from others (at least 1 metre), even if they don't appear to be sick.
- b) Wear a mask in public, especially indoors or when physical distancing is not possible.
- c) Practice good hygiene and wash your hands often especially before handling food or after respiratory secretions like coughing or sneezing.
- d) Get vaccinated when it's your turn. Follow local guidance about vaccination.
- e) Cover your nose and mouth with your bent elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- f) Stay home and seek medical attention immediately if you are feeling unwell.

Properly fitted masks can help prevent the spread of the virus from the person wearing the mask to others. Masks alone do not protect against COVID-19, and should be combined with physical distancing and hand hygiene. Follow the advice provided by your local health authority.

Q18. Why is the school limiting parents from entering the school premises? Why are parents only being allowed to drop-off and pick-up their children?

We recognize that some of the precautionary measures we are putting in place may result in some inconvenience. However, they are implemented to protect everyone at INCS. We therefore seek your kind understanding and assistance.

Parents/guardians are advised to not remain at the school premises during school hours. Parents are advised to leave the school premise after drop off and pick of their child. This will help the school to control any possible transmission of the virus around the school.

Daily temperature checks (= 37.5°C) and vaccination status checks will be conducted to all students, teachers, staff, parents/guardians and visitors before entering the school premises. The school management reserves the right to prohibit any student, teacher, staff, parent/guardian or visitor from entering the school premise when the temperature reading is at or above 37.5°C, or if someone is not fully vaccinated.

Resources:

<https://educationmalaysia.gov.my/coronavirus/>

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/faqs-covid-19-infection#q24>

<https://www.doctoroncall.com.my/coronavirus>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

[updated v2.09.2021]