

LR/AM/Term1-21/22

29 September 2021

UPDATED REPORTING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS - 29 SEPTEMBER 2021

Dear Parents,

The protocols outlined below must be followed by:

- ALL students who have tested POSITIVE.
- Students who have come into close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive case.
- Students with COVID-19 related symptoms.

As defined by the DHA:

COVID-19 Close Contact: is a person who is exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 case, within a proximity of one (1) meter or less, for a period of more than 15 minutes, with or without wearing masks, or who is in direct physical contact with the case (like hand shaking). This could be at work, in educational settings, at home, while using public transportation, etc. The exposure is considered if the interaction with the confirmed case meets one of the following:

- From two (2) days before the onset of symptoms in the confirmed case.
- From two (2) days of positive PCR test specimen collection date, for asymptomatic confirmed cases.
- During the ten (10) days duration of the illness
- unless they have been previously diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last six (6) months and have recovered and remain without COVID-19 symptoms (p 11)

*(Information Source: Management of COVID-19 in Educational Institutions, Version 5.1
Ref. No. HRS/HPSD/MC-19EI/V5.1/2021, Issued 16 Sept 2021)*

1. IF A STUDENT HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

- a. Parents must inform the school IMMEDIATELY by calling the **JAS Health & Safety Team on 054 9961622** (between 6:30am and 7.00pm only).
This phone number must be used for reporting COVID-19 positive cases only.
- b. Parents need to contact trace the student's movements for the previous *two (2) days* prior to the onset of symptoms, or from the day of the PCR positive test, and inform the school of any other JAS students suspected of being a close contact* outside of school hours.
- c. The COVID-19 positive student must **ISOLATE for 10 days** and not physically attend school. The student will be registered automatically for Distance Learning.

- d. Parents must email a copy of the student's PCR test result to reportingcovid@jebelalishool.org.
- e. At the end of the 10 day isolation period parents must submit the COVID-19 Clearance Certificate which is automatically issued by the DHA on Day 10 (or by calling the DHA Helpline 800342 if it is not received) before the student can return to school.
- f. Parents MUST email a copy of the COVID-19 Clearance Certificate to reportingcovid@jebelalishool.org
- g. Students MUST NOT return to school until the COVID-19 Clearance Certificate has been received and acknowledged by the school's Health Clinic.

2. IF A STUDENT HAS COME INTO CLOSE CONTACT* WITH A CONFIRMED COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE (*refer to the DHA definition of a *Close Contact above*)

- a. The student **MUST quarantine at home for 7 days**, from the last date of contact with the confirmed positive case.
- b. If a student is unable to fully isolate from the confirmed COVID-19 positive case then the 7 day quarantine period will start from the day the COVID-19 Clearance Certificate has been received (i.e. the CC quarantine period starts on day 10).
- c. Parents must inform the school by emailing the details to reportingcovid@jebelalishool.org
- d. The DHA advises that **symptomatic** students seek medical advice **and** conduct a COVID-19 PCR test.
- e. If a COVID-19 PCR test is carried out and the result is positive, then the student must follow the procedures stipulated in SECTION 1 above.
- f. Even if the student is **asymptomatic**, or has a negative PCR test result, or is fully vaccinated, they cannot return to school before the end of the 7 day quarantine period as directed by the DHA.
- g. The student must not physically attend school and will be registered automatically for Distance Learning.
- h. 2 days before the expected return to school the student must complete the [JAS Student Virtual Health Assessment - Close Contact Questionnaire](#) to ensure the absence of symptoms and to obtain clearance for the return to school.
- i. On the morning of their return to school, the student must report to the school's Health Clinic for a physical health check to ensure they are symptom-free. This will be a pre-scheduled appointment arranged directly with the school's Health Clinic. Students must be accompanied by a parent / guardian, who **must remain on site** until the student is given clearance by the school's Health Clinic to rejoin their classes.
- j. *Note: A Close Contact* who is asymptomatic does not require a PCR test result in order to return to school.*

3. **IF THE STUDENT IS A SIBLING OF A CLOSE CONTACT* (ie: THE SIBLING HAS NOT PERSONALLY COME INTO CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE KNOWN COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE)**

- a. As per DHA guidelines, the sibling of a student who is deemed to be a Close Contact* to a confirmed COVID-19 positive case **is permitted to attend school** however parents must monitor the sibling extremely closely for any COVID-19 related symptoms.
- b. If symptoms develop refer to Section 4 below.

4. **STUDENTS WITH COVID-19 RELATED SYMPTOMS**

- a. It is vitally important that if your child is unwell and is displaying any COVID-19 related symptoms you must NOT send them to school and follow the standard JAS absence procedure by notifying the school via email on absence@jebelalishool.org.
- b. To physically return to school your child must be symptom-free and will be required to submit a negative PCR test result to reportingcovid@jebelalishool.org
- c. Distance Learning is not available to students who are absent from school due to illness or whilst awaiting a PCR test result.
- d. In order to reduce the spread of illness the school adheres to the following Infection control policy.
 - Children who have the following symptoms or are sent home by the school's Health Clinic should not return to school until they are **24 hours' symptom free** if they have:
 - Fever 37.5°C or above
 - Skin rash
 - Heavy nasal discharge
 - Sore throat
 - Persistent cough
 - Red, watery and painful eyes
 - Children should not return to school until they are **48 hours' symptom free** if they have:
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhoea

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

NOTE 1 - IF A FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 you **must notify the school by emailing reportingcovid@jebelalishool.org and keep all of your children at home for the full quarantine period** (as per scenario 2 for close contacts*). This is a DHA requirement for schools.

NOTE 2 - COVID-19 RELATED SYMPTOMS are: congestion / runny nose, sore throat, cough, headache, diarrhoea, fever / chills, new loss of taste / smell, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, fatigue, nausea and vomiting.

CONTACT INFORMATION - for Covid-19 reporting only

- If a student is **COVID-19 POSITIVE (Section 1)** – **Call 054 9961622 urgently** between 6:30am and 7.00pm. (calls after 7pm will be dealt with on the following working day)
This phone number must be used for reporting COVID-19 positive cases only.
- If a student has been in **close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 Positive case** (Section 2, 3 or 4) email the details to reportingcovid@jebelalishool.org *This email address must be used for reporting COVID-19 positive and suspected Close Contacts cases only.*

With your cooperation, we hope that these procedures will continue to keep all of our school community safe and the school open to students.

Yours faithfully,

Elizabeth Robinson
Principal

SCENARIO 1

IF A JAS STUDENT TESTS COVID-19 POSITIVE

PARENT TO CONTACT JAS H&S TEAM URGENTLY AT 054 9961622 (6:30AM-7:00PM only)

PARENT TO CONTACT TRACE ALL CLOSE CONTACTS* IN THE PREVIOUS 2 DAYS BEFORE the onset of symptoms OR positive test

PARENT MUST EMAIL COPY OF PCR TEST RESULT
reportingcovid@jebelalischool.org

STUDENT MUST ISOLATE AND REMAIN AT HOME FOR 10 DAYS from the date of test result

STUDENT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

PARENTS MUST SUBMIT THE STUDENT'S COVID-19 CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE ISSUED AUTOMATICALLY FROM DHA (OR BY CALLING 800342) BEFORE THEY CAN RETURN TO SCHOOL & EMAIL A COPY TO
reportingcovid@jebelalischool.org

STUDENT MUST RECEIVE CONFIRMATION FROM JAS HEALTH CLINIC BEFORE RETURNING

COVID-19 RELATED SYMPTOMS

fever / chills, sore throat, cough, headache, new loss of taste / smell, shortness of breath, difficult breathing, muscle or body aches, diarrhoea / vomiting, congestion / runny nose, fatigue.

SCENARIO 2

STUDENT IN CLOSE CONTACT* WITH A POSITIVE CASE in the previous 2 days BEFORE the onset of symptoms OR positive test

PARENTS TO INFORM SCHOOL BY EMAILING
reportingcovid@jebelalischool.org

CC STUDENT TO QUARANTINE AT HOME FOR 7 DAYS from the last date of contact with the COVID-19 positive case and irrespective of a negative PCR test

STUDENT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

CLOSE CONTACT MUST BE CLOSELY MONITORED FOR ANY COVID-19 RELATED SYMPTOMS

IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP STUDENT MUST SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE & OBTAIN A MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS AND A PCR TEST

IF PCR TEST IS POSITIVE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCENARIO 1

EVEN IF PCR TEST IS NEGATIVE STUDENT MUST STILL QUARANTINE FOR 7 DAYS from the date of last contact

2 DAYS BEFORE EXPECTED RETURN PARENTS TO COMPLETE THE JAS STUDENT VIRTUAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT FORM

ON THE MORNING OF RETURN STUDENT MUST ATTEND JAS HEALTH CLINIC FOR FINAL CHECK BEFORE GOING TO CLASS

SCENARIO 3

SIBLING OF A CLOSE CONTACT* IS PERMITTED TO ATTEND SCHOOL PROVIDING THEY ARE SYMPTOM FREE

PARENTS TO CLOSELY MONITOR SIBLING FOR ANY COVID-19 RELATED SYMPTOMS

IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP STUDENT MUST REMAIN AT HOME AND SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE TO OBTAIN A MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS AND CONDUCT A COVID-19 PCR TEST

TO PHYSICALLY RETURN TO SCHOOL THE STUDENT MUST BE SYMPTOM-FREE AND IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A NEGATIVE PCR TEST RESULT

JAS INFECTION CONTROL POLICY (pre-COVID-19)

In order to reduce the spread of illness the school follows the following Infection Control Policy.

Children who have the following symptoms (or are sent home by the JAS Health Clinic) should not return to school until they are:

24 hours' symptom-free

- Fever 37.5°C or above
- Skin rash
- Heavy nasal discharge
- Sore throat
- Persistent cough
- Red, watery and painful eyes

48 hours' symptom free

- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea

SCENARIO 4

IF A STUDENT IS DISPLAYING ANY COVID-RELATED SYMPTOMS THEN THE STUDENT MUST REMAIN AT HOME WHILST WAITING FOR A MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS AND A COVID-19 PCR TEST RESULT.

FOLLOW THE JAS ABSENCE PROCEDURE BY EMAILING
absence@jebelalischool.org

TO PHYSICALLY RETURN TO SCHOOL THE STUDENT MUST BE SYMPTOM-FREE AND IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A NEGATIVE PCR TEST RESULT TO
reportingcovid@jebelalischool.org

If any member of your household tests positive for COVID-19 you must notify the school by emailing reportingcovid@jebelalischool.org and keep ALL of your children at home for the full quarantine period.

A COVID-19 CLOSE CONTACT* is: a person who is exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 case, within a proximity of one (1) meter or less, for a period of more than 15 minutes, with or without wearing masks, or who is in direct physical contact with the case.

From two (2) days before the onset of symptoms in the confirmed case, or the positive PCR test specimen collection date, or during the ten (10) days duration of the illness.

** unless they have been previously diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last six (6) months and have recovered and remain without COVID-19 symptoms (Source: DHA Guidelines V5.1, 16.09.2021)*