



GEMS FPS COVID-19 Return to School Plans

Academic year 2020-2021

Colours:

EYFS – Light Blue

Key Stage 1- Dark Blue

Key Stage 2 – Orange

Key Stage 3 – Purple

Key Stage 4 – Red

Key Stage 5 – Green

Resumption of operations

Your children's safety is our primary concern and we are fully committed supporting their health, wellbeing and continued academic development during this important time. Our reopening plans have been verified by both the KHDA and Gems and they centre around three critical factors:

- 1) The safety of your children across all age-groups at FPS. We will be adhering to all Health and Safety regulations without exception.
- 2) The wellbeing of your children. We want them to be happy to be back at school, excited to see their friends and at all times feel safe and reassured that FPS is doing everything they can to keep them safe and provide them with a high-quality education.
- 3) To provide an outstanding education that is uncompromised by the changes in delivery. We will ensure that every lesson is supporting the progress of your children whether delivered face to face in the classroom or via our Remote Learning strategy, which achieved the highest rating of 'Developed' by the KHDA during Term 3. Alongside this, schools shall ensure staff presence in the UAE at least (14) days prior to their first day of work to comply with any UAE health requirements (quarantine, COVID-19 tests, etc.).

Tips to support children during this phase

We understand that starting the new school year might make your children feel nervous or reluctant to return to school. There is additional, full guidance available on the website in the Return To School section.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN DURING THIS PHASE:

- Speak to your children about COVID-19 and let them know that it is natural to feel anxious or nervous about returning to school.
- Have an open conversation about their anxieties and fears about returning to school and reassure them about safety measures and precautions the schools will have in place to keep everyone healthy.
- Be honest about the changes that they will see at school, such as the need to wear masks and inability to be close to all of their friends and teachers.
- Explain to the children that they will play an essential role in keeping themselves and their community healthy by wearing a mask, maintaining social distancing and washing/sanitising their hands.
- Highlight the positive aspect of returning to school, such as being able to meet their friends and learning new things.
- Continuously check in with your children to evaluate their wellbeing when school begins.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PREP

Two schooling options:

- We are one of the few schools who have permission from the KHDA to return to 100% on-site education in a Blended Learning scenario.
- We wish to return as many students as possible to on-site learning in the new year.
- This will look different from “normal” FPS provision (staggered start and end times, changes to timetables, movement around the school, use of facilities and the creation of learning bubbles).
- It will also involve the use of live-streamed lessons on a rotation basis to small groups of students (Blended Learning). Here, all students will be on site. Some students will work in small groups on tasks or with support outside of the classroom. Others may access lessons live, or be set alternative work depending on ability. All work will be controlled and managed by class teachers.
- In line with a recent KHDA directive, we will also be offering a 100% Distance Learning option for all children and students for those parents/families who request it. We understand that some parents would prefer to keep their children at home for a little longer, and we will fully support these families with a 100% Distance Learning programme.

Tuition fees:

- Full tuition fees will apply to all students, regardless of the mode of attendance and the model you choose to access.
- If you are facing financial constraints, reach out to the school’s ELT team for advice or support.
- If you choose not to enrol your child in school, and instead homeschool him/her, you take the risk that your child will need to repeat the grade once they are back in the system.

BEGINNING AND END OF THE DAY

- All access points will be designated as either an entry or an exit point to privilege one-way directionality.
- All students will enter through main entry points where temperature checking equipment will be in place. This includes:

Students entering through Gate 6 from the back of the school site (The Villa entrance):

- Students move through the gates (storing bikes, etc.). Students proceed to enter the back of B Block (the back of the swimming baths). Students will be temperature checked as they move through the double doors past the sports hall and auditorium. Students will then proceed to enter the school through designated entry points (depending on their year group).

Secondary & Primary entrance – Gate 6 The Villa

Enter through Gate 6



Immediately, make your way onto site
and into the auditorium.



Students entering through Gate 1 (Main Gate):

- Gate 1 is designated for Secondary pupils and post-16. Students will move through the gates and into the auditorium through the double doors.
- Students will proceed through the designated channels and be temperature checked as they enter school. Students will then exit the auditorium and leave via B Block double doors and enter the school via their designated entry points.

Secondary entrance

Enter
through
Gate 1
(or The
Villa
(Gate 6))



Immediately,
make your
way onto site
and into the
auditorium.



Maintain social distancing, as you enter the auditorium, you will be temperature checked

Students entering Gate 3 (Primary Gate):

Gate 3 is designated for Primary pupils, as this entrance directs students and parents to move down the allocated walkways and access the separate Primary entrances and exits. **There will be dedicated, marked walkways and entrances for EYFS and Year 1 (through main Primary Reception entrance).** There will be different and separate access for Years 2 and 3 (round the back of the EYFS/Y1 entrance). **There will be a third entrance for Years 4, 5 and 6, which was the previous Primary and Secondary entrance. This will now be reallocated to Y4, 5 and 6 only, who will walk in through the doors, immediately turn right and access their dedicated stairwell.**

- **FS1, FS2 and Y1 students** will enter via the main Primary Reception entrance where they will be temperature checked (picture). Parents can then walk their children to the classroom. Parents will then drop off their children at the door - not entering the classrooms at any point. Parents will then continue down the one-way corridor and leave via the double doors and the Designated exit next to the Primary KS2 entrance.

- For Y2 and Y3, students will be thermal screened on entering the school and will make their way (without parents) to their classrooms.
- For Years 4, 5 and 6, once they have entered via the double doors, they will be thermal and make their way immediately into the stairwell, on to the first floor and into their own classrooms.

At all entrance points, all authorised persons must enter one at a time, spaced 2m apart (as per the floor markings). All authorised persons must enter wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). The school will stock extra PPE to accommodate authorised persons who do not have the required PPE for entry.

- At all points, stickers on the floor will demarcate 2-meter social distancing and queuing. There will be a member of security staff to take temperature checks and man the thermal cameras.
- Every station will be manned - to control temperature checks, manning of the thermal cameras (checking for symptoms and temperatures <37.5) and isolating students with temperatures above 37.5. There will be spare sanitisation materials (hand gels) and PPE equipment at every entrance point, to ensure all students and parents are wearing the correct PPE. Staff will also carry mobile hand sanitisers, be wearing full PPE, and have available additional spares to ensure they can further sanitise students as they enter the site.

Further entry details:

- Queuing areas outside will be demarcated - intervals 2m apart.
- Entry/exit will be staggered, with limited crossover between students arriving by private transportation and bus-riders.
- Students will be supervised by staff in classrooms and by leaders as they transition into school.
- Pupils can arrive earlier (7:15 am) where needed.
- Hand sanitisers have been provided/installed at every access point and outside classrooms. Additional hand sanitisers are available in classrooms.
- *Students of Determination can have designated arrival and departure points and measures in place to accommodate specific needs if any further adaptations are needed. These will be developed and discussed through the Risk Assessment and development of an IEP and overseen by the Inclusion Team.*
- All students older than six years of age (Year 2 and above) are required to wear face masks at all times.

Only one family member or a guardian will be allowed to enter the school facility to drop off or pick up his/her child at the designated entry point. This is for specified year groups only (FS1, FS2 and Year 1). We appreciate this may be difficult for parents, but this rule is to protect the health of our children by reducing all risks and potential contamination of the school site.

Parents will not be allowed to enter the school or classrooms. People with medical conditions, including the elderly, should not come for drop off and pick up.

Families drop off and pick up at designated areas and designated timings with no interaction inside the school. There will be no access to the rest of the school facility by family members and visitors. In line with the authority's directives, family members will be given a maximum time limit of 10 minutes on school site.

Staggered return to school:

| Sunday 30 th August | Monday 31 st August | Tuesday 1 st September | Wednesday 2 nd September | Thursday 3 rd September |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Year groups: | Year groups: | Year groups: | Year groups: | Year groups: |
| New Joiners | Year 13 | Year 13 | Year 13 | Year 13 |
| Year 12 | Year 12 | Year 12 | Year 12 | Year 12 |
| New Joiners | Year 11 | Year 11 | Year 11 | Year 11 |
| New Joiners | | Year 10 | Year 10 | Year 10 |
| New Joiners | | Year 9 | Year 9 | Year 9 |
| New Joiners | Year 8 | Year 8 | Year 8 | Year 8 |
| Year 7 | Year 7 | Year 7 | Year 7 | Year 7 |
| New Joiners | Year 6 | Year 6 | Year 6 | Year 6 |
| New Joiners | | Year 5 | Year 5 | Year 5 |
| New Joiners | Year 4 | Year 4 | Year 4 | Year 4 |
| New Joiners | | Year 3 | Year 3 | Year 3 |
| New Joiners | Year 2 | Year 2 | Year 2 | Year 2 |
| New Joiners | Year 1 (A – am) Year 1 (B – pm) | Year 1 | Year 1 | Year 1 |
| New Joiners | FS Specific | FS Specific | FS Specific | FS Specific |

Staggered start and end to the day:

The school and all classrooms will be open from 7:15am for children to begin arriving and settle into work. There will be staggered starts to the day in order to ensure all children can be safely welcomed and screened onto site, while still allowing for a smooth transition into classes.

| Year group | Classrooms open | Registration | Entrance/s | End time | Exits/s |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| FS1 | 7:15am | 7:55am | Gate 3/The Villa (Gate 6). FS/Y1 Entrance | 12:05pm | End of corridor (out through Y4-6 entrance) |
| FS2 | 7:15am | 7:50am | Gate3/The Villa (Gate 6). FS/Y1 Entrance | 3:00pm | End of corridor (out through Y4-6 entrance) |
| Y1 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 3/The Villa (Gate 6). FS/Y1 Entrance | 3:05pm | End of Y1 corridor through |
| Y2 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate3/The Villa (Gate 6). Y2/Y3 entrance | 3:00pm | Y2/3 Entrance |
| Y3 | 7:15am | 7:50am | Gate3/The Villa (Gate 6). Y2/Y3 entrance | 3:10pm | Y2/3 Entrance |
| Y4 | 7:15am | 7:55am | Gate 3/The Villa (Gate 6). Old Primary/Secondary Entrance – Now Y4,5,6 Primary only Entrance | 3:10pm | Y4,5,6 entrance. |
| Y5 | 7:15am | 7:50am | Gate 3/The Villa (Gate 6). Primary/Secondary Entrance – Now Y4,5,6 Primary only Entrance | 3:05pm | Potential split. End of C block corridor and Y4,5,6 entrance. |
| Y6 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 3/The Villa (Gate 6). Primary/Secondary Entrance – Now Y4,5,6 Primary only Entrance | 3:00pm | End of C block corridor. |
| All KS2 Primary bus students to leave at 3:00pm promptly and be escorted to the buses. | | | | | |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Y7 | 7:15am | 7:50am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| Y8 | 7:15am | 7:50am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| Y9 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| Y10 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| Y11 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| Y12 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| Y13 | 7:15am | 7:45am | Gate 1/The Villa (Gate 6). A Block entrances (by playground), DG20 (near green/forest school) | 3:10pm | A Block exit (by front of school), DG20 (near green/forest school) and back of D block exit. C block (end of corridor – exit by Year 1 corridor). |
| All bus children depart at 3:10 pm as normal with all other students. | | | | | |

End of the day arrangements and times:

The staggered end of the school day is to allow for safe dismissal and to ensure there is minimal cross over between groups at the end of the day. Further specific guidance on how you can collect your children (particularly in Primary) are in the Mini School specific documents.

Transport safety measures

- Children taking the bus will be scanned for their temperature on the bus. Anyone with a fever $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ will have their parents will be contacted and the child will be returned to their parent/carer.
- Buses will be running at 50% capacity.
- To use the bus you must register with STS, accept their terms and conditions and Bus Behaviour Code, clear any outstanding fees and pay one month (September 2020) fees to confirm registration.

- No food or drink (other than water) can be consumed on the bus.
- Students must sanitise their hands when getting on the bus, and once before dismounting.
- Only one bus at a time may allow students to descend and enter the school premises. Students should wait inside their bus until all students have disembarked from the previous bus.
- Descending from the bus should be done in an orderly fashion, row by row, and respecting social distancing.
- Each bus is required to have at least one bus monitor to check students' temperatures, dispense hand gel, tend to students who require assistance, and usher them when disembarking.
- Students will be assigned seating, with the same seating assignments maintained daily.
- Students will be temperature checked a second time on arrival at school and before leaving the bus - allowing them to exit the bus and then move across the green, directly to their designated entry points and into class from the back of school.
- For further information, please contact STS.

If your child becomes sick – Screening & Contingency/Emergency Plan

They will immediately be moved to the Quarantine Room, where they will be monitored by school medical staff.

You will be contacted immediately to retrieve your child from school.

The school shall not administer any medicines to your child.

The school will inform you about the nearest hospital and COVID-19 testing centre.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you are mandated to inform the school so that they can take measures to secure the health of other students and staff who may have been exposed to the virus.

Information about your child will **not be shared** with anyone other than the relevant government authorities.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Class sizes and grouping/general:

The school will be split into learning bubbles. Bubbles are arranged in age-specific groups.

Each class within each bubble is kept isolated from other classes in the same bubble. **In all F.S and Year 1 classes, the children will be in a bubble of 10 as a maximum. There will be a maximum of 20 children in each class and there will be dividers splitting the two bubbles of children. The children will stay in their bubble for the whole day and will not be mixing with children in another bubble. The children will store their bags and shoes outside the classroom in an allocated cubby. Please ensure if your child is in F.S that they are wearing the F.S non-slip socks in house colours. In Year 2 and KS2 the bubble size will be 24 and the specialist teachers will move to teach the children in their class bubbles. The children will continue to participate in specialist P.E lessons, where social distancing is observed.**

For KS3, students have been grouped into form groups. The maximum class size is 24 for any given lesson. Students will still access specialist equipment and departments (e.g. D.T, Food Technology and P.E) but they will be kept in determined groups for core subjects to minimise rotation. Double sessions have been timetabled where necessary to further reduce cross over and rotation.

For KS4, students have been grouped into a mixture of form groups and option blocks. This will ensure that there is minimal rotation between learning bubbles, but will also ensure that students are able to access their choice subjects. The maximum class size for any group is also 24 students. Double sessions have been timetabled where necessary to further reduce cross over and rotation.

For KS5, students have been grouped into their relevant subject choices and form groups. With strict social distancing in place and with smaller class sizes, students will still be able to access their specific subject choices, whilst minimising crossover with other bubbles and students. Groups and timetables have been reviewed and adjusted to protect this.

At any and all movement points within the day, students are sanitised before leaving the classroom. The classroom is sanitised. Students move through common areas that are sanitised throughout the day by cleaning staff. All students are sanitised prior to moving into their new learning space and the learning space has already been sanitised. This ensures the safe movement of students within their learning bubble. Higher up the school, double and triple lessons in a subject are organised to reduce movement and the use of movement areas. Movement timings are staggered to prevent cross-contamination.

The majority of lessons will be live streamed so that all students will be able to access lessons and teacher support in 'real time'. We will also be providing asynchronous material for students to complete and submit online. Teachers will feedback to students electronically using the systems we have established during distance learning. The students and staff are experienced and confident with the platforms we will be using and we are therefore confident that this will be successful.

EYFS: Microsoft Teams and Seesaw

Years 1-2: Microsoft Teams and Seesaw

Year 3- 6: Microsoft Teams and Seesaw

Years 7 – 9: Microsoft Teams

Years 10 – 11: Microsoft Teams

Years 12 -13: Microsoft Teams

Transition Areas

- School has carried out an inspection of the premises and planned a circulation map of the campus (see website for entrance and exit details). Each Mini School has published their own information for students on how to enter and exit school.
- One-way circulation has been privileged and signalled through floor/wall markings. Where one-way circulation is not possible (e.g. C Block), two-way paths will be clearly marked to minimise crossovers and control the "flow" of students and movement.
- Easy-to-understand signage (signs, arrows, colour signals in line with GEMS policy) has been ordered and installed throughout school at agreed, designated points.
- Bottleneck areas have been identified (entry to classrooms, entry to bathrooms, entry into narrower hallways, etc.) where crowding is likely. Here signage is in place to demarcate queuing and social distancing while 1.5 m apart. Access to these areas is also timed.
- Waiting areas in and out of key areas (classrooms) have been identified and marked with stickers to identify socially distant standing positions (1.5 m).
- Timings for breaks and other downtimes have been adapted to limit crossover between classes and to minimise congestion in hallways and other circulation zones. Primary break and lunchtimes will initially, until the weather cools, take place in the classrooms. These will be supervised by the class teacher and the class teaching assistant.

- Classroom doors will remain open when possible (i.e. unless a fire hazard) to increase entry/exit flow and avoid touching of door handle/knob, etc.
Students of Determination will be provided with clear guidance, differentiated as appropriate, to ensure the safe movement of themselves and others around the school site. Adaptations to the protocol may be required to meet any specific needs of the individual; however, these should not result in increased risk to themselves or others.

Blended Learning

For EYFS and Year 1, students will work in their class bubbles. They will learn by accessing individual stations set up at their own desks, shared stations within their classroom or breakout spaces and move between different learning areas (including Rainbow Gates) on strict rotation with no cross over.

For Year 2 and the rest of Primary, students will either work with additional adults in focussed groups or interventions outside of the classroom, access live streamed lessons from another learning space or be working in groups on structured tasks (organised and planned by the class teacher as part of the lesson).

For KS3 and KS4, in the few cases where class sizes exceed 24 (for example, this currently stands at 5 classes across both Year 10 and 11) small groups of students will work in groups with an additional staff member outside the classroom or access the lesson from another fully sanitised learning space in the school. In Secondary, the few lessons where this will take place your child will have to complete their learning outside the classroom on average once every four to six weeks. The Post-16 Cafe will be used as a learning and study space for post-16. It is set up according to the social distancing standards, will be regularly sanitised and will have individual pods and learning zones for students to conduct independent study.

Students of Determination

- Students of Determination will be fully supported when they come back to school. As students join back individual plans will be put in place for those students who need extra help and guidance.
- Students with Learning Support Assistants will still be fully supported by their Learning Support Assistant.
- The school aims to keep students in the common learning environment as much as possible but depending on need. We will also supplement this with access to live lessons alongside personalised provision in other dedicated spaces where it will enhance and support learning.
- Intervention Classes will keep students in their learning bubbles. Support will be delivered both in class and out of class.
- All intervention and support will maintain social distancing guidelines.

Classrooms:

Classrooms will be set up according to the following standards:

- Hand-gel dispensers have been installed across school.
- Outside every classroom and contactless for EYFS and Key Stage 1
- Outside every classroom and manual for KS2 – KS5.
- Teachers will also have access to smaller dispensers that they will carry on their person at all times.
- There will be additional, portable, manual dispensers inside every classroom, which staff will use (wearing PPE) to dispense for students.
- A sanitisation kit will be made available to every teacher in every classroom. This will include a box of disinfectant wipes. Dispersal disinfecting sprays and disposable wipes will be placed on every teacher's desk (and regularly stocked). These will be used at the start and end of every lesson to disinfect all seats and tables.
- Workstations will be arranged so that students are positioned 1.5 m apart.

- Shared tables will be demarcated so that it is clear where students should be seated.
- All non-essential furniture will be removed to maximise available space.
- Separate storage for belongings and lunch boxes will be designated within the classrooms and be allocated for every child.
- Physical see-through barriers/partitions will be used in classes and larger spaces (i.e. the auditorium, converted cafeterias, converted gym/dance studio)

Recreation/Play Areas:

- Students will be allowed to take regular supervised breaks (outdoors where possible and when the temperature is in line with our safe play policy) but break times will be staggered to avoid mixing of different classes (especially age groups).
- As the recreation space is large enough to host multiple groups, this will be done, but under the strict supervised separation of groups.
- High-traffic playground equipment (i.e. slides, swings, etc.) are to remain off-limits during the initial return to school period.
- Hand gel dispensers and disinfectant wipes should be made available in the vicinity and staff will have portable hand gels on their lanyards.
- Students of Determination will be appropriately monitored and supervised to ensure appropriate physical distancing whilst outside to ensure the safety of themselves and others.

Libraries:

- Libraries will remain under restricted access and online resources will be made available where possible. Libraries will be converted into additional classroom space where possible.

Sports Facilities

- All students are highly encouraged to participate in non-contact sports to maintain their health and wellbeing.
- Contact sports (i.e. rugby, wrestling, basketball, etc.) are prohibited for the initial reopening period. Individual sports (yoga, dance, jump rope, running, cycling, track & field not including relays, etc.) may be practised.
- Authorised sports should preferably be practised outdoors if and when the weather allows, but will be indoors during the return to school. This will be in line with the school's weather and play policies.
- On their designated P.E days, students will be required to come in wearing their P.E kit.
- Swimming pools will remain closed until further notice.

Cultural Facilities:

- All students are highly encouraged to participate in cultural activities to channel their creativity and maintain their wellbeing.
- Cultural activities that are part of the curriculum such as the arts may also take place under the condition that social distancing is implemented, and shared material is minimised and/or disinfected before and after use (i.e. paintbrushes, pottery wheels, etc.).

Identifying areas of learning loss and developing interventions:

The school has planned a series of assessments (baseline, GL and Autumn Term testing) to evaluate students' learning and to identify learning gaps and make necessary adjustments.

FPS will also be scheduling, developing and delivering extra interventions to students to continue to ensure students are track to meet their FPS aspirational targets and to cover any gaps that have emerged during DL, or been identified during testing. Schools will look teach these lessons in a tutorial-style setting, only for students that need the additional learning support or challenge and these groups will be fixed.

High-Stakes Exams:

Details may vary depending on the specificities of each exam (i.e. exam requirements, materials to bring, examination protocol); however, FPS has full plans in place to facilitate all exams.

Special Events (Assemblies):

All special events such as festivals, holiday events, special performances, and sports tournaments have been cancelled until further notice.

Group activities such as school trips, celebrations, sports and student camps have been suspended until further notice. Large assemblies are not permitted, and schools shall continue to perform the UAE National Anthem in classrooms.

Students of Determination will be provided with appropriate support as outlined on their IEP to participate in all school activities on an equitable basis as their peers. Where health and safety needs prevent this, alternative provision must be outlined on the IEP.

Staggered start and finish to the day (TBD if needed)

The school will be running a staggered return to school for the first week, in order to safely induct all pupils and share with them the changes to arrangements, access, timetables and walkways. This decision has also been made with the student's wellbeing and mental health in mind. We wish to reduce any pupil anxiety and is to provide an opportunity for students to become comfortable and familiar with the new arrangements. A dedicated staffing team will be available to take students through the new site and school arrangements and discuss any and all changes.

Break and Lunchtimes, including canteen services:

Break times – these will initially be in class due to our hot weather policy and whilst temperatures remain high. Once they cool down, students will be allowed to have play times outside in their separate bubbles. Active play will be encouraged, following social distancing and when it is safe to do so.

Lunchtimes:

Primary – will eat in their bubbles in their classrooms and will be supervised by teachers and TAs.

Secondary – KS3 and KS4 there will be a mixed approach where students eat in designated areas separated by social distancing, but with the opportunity to talk and safely socialise with peers. This will include Primary and Secondary cafeterias, libraries, classrooms and the auditorium.

KS5 – will eat in their designated spaces and the Post-16 café (socially distanced and supervised by staff).

Food and Beverages:

- Following discussions with GEMS and the KHDA, the school is asking parents to send individual packed lunches with students to reduce the risk of infection. No cooked lunches or food will be available on site. Therefore, the use of the canteen by different groups will not be permitted for cooked lunches. Lunch will be conducted in classrooms and other designated safe spaces where possible (libraries, school restaurants, auditorium), but in smaller groups and with social distancing and strict hygiene rules in place.
- This will be reviewed at half term and cooked food will return when we are able.
- **EYFS – KS1 – students will keep their belongings in individual lockers outside of the classroom.**
- **KS2 – will keep their personal belongings in trays in their classrooms and at their personal desk.**
- **KS3 – students will also keep their belongings in the classroom.**
- **KS4 – students will use a combination of lockers and keep belongings stored by their desks in the classroom.**
- **KS5 – will keep their items with them in their personal learning spaces in classrooms and study areas.**

Staff and student wellbeing:

Supporting students and staff cope with anxiety/trauma:

FPS has a comprehensive wellbeing plan and offer in place which has been adapted and evolved to accommodate Distance Learning. This involves work with teachers and in classrooms, as well as in conjunction with school counsellors. Additional counselling sessions will be put in place in Primary for vulnerable students, with a qualified counsellor who is also a teacher (to increase provision) alongside our usual counselling offer and services.

Staff and students may be returning to school having experienced effects related to confinement, social isolation, and loss and bereavement amongst many other things. The school has therefore created additional capacity as above to support the school community (students but also teachers and staff) with post-confinement as well as identify age- and context-appropriate resources to cope with mental health issues.

Counsellors and wellbeing support staff should have appropriate knowledge of how to communicate with Students of Determination and demonstrate an understanding of their unique circumstances. Students of Determination may be more emotionally vulnerable as a result of the COVID 19 situation and this may impact negatively upon their emotional health and wellbeing.

Communication:

- Transparency is of the utmost importance in tackling COVID-19. Schools shall develop a parent communication plan.
- The school will regularly communicate with parents and update them regarding the return to school and our plans – especially as many are extremely anxious about sending their children to school.
- Communication will be maintained on a weekly basis (i.e. update emails, newsletters, Principal's message, formal letters etc.) to keep them abreast of progress, challenges, and to remind them of their role in keeping their children safe by enforcing the basic preventive measures

Before the semester begins

If you're not in the UAE, plan to return at least 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the new academic year to meet any requirements of quarantine/COVID-19 testing enforced by the UAE Government.

Re-register your child for the new academic year.

Review the model that your child's Mini School and Year Group is adopting, along with any specific guidelines related to:

- Requirements/modes for distance learning
- Timings for pick-up and drop-off (private transportation and school buses)
- Any additional guidelines that your school has provided

Respond to school's requests related to:

- Updated contact information
- Updated medical records
- Special arrangements for your child as required

Inform the Principal if your child has undergone bereavement or loss due to the pandemic.

Daily checks and actions

Ensure your child does not have a fever or any symptoms such as cough, breathing difficulty or body aches.

If your child is older than 6 years, ensure they have at least two masks (if disposable) to wear at school during the day.

Wear a mask when dropping off your child to school.

Stay 2m away from other families and individuals during drop-off and pick-up.

If your child can manage, provide them with 70-80% alcohol-based sanitiser to carry in their pocket.

Ongoing actions

As we work with schools across Dubai to create the safest possible environment for our children to return to school, we will also rely on your vigilance to ensure that the risk of COVID-19 transmission is minimised outside of school. To this end, you can support by:

1. Ensuring that you limit your and your child's potential exposure to COVID-19. This means staying away from crowded areas and avoiding large gatherings.
2. When you leave your home, ensure that you and your family members wear a mask and maintain social distancing as directed by UAE's public health authorities.
3. If your child is participating in extra-curricular activities or play dates, please ensure that they follow hygiene and social-distancing measures diligently.
4. If your child experiences COVID-19 symptoms such as cough, fever or breathlessness, do not send them to school, and seek immediate medical care.
5. Teach your child the following prevention techniques to safeguard themselves and others:
 - Keeping a safe distance of 1.5m from others.
 - Covering their mouth and nose with a tissue/paper towel when they cough or sneeze and throwing used tissues in the trash immediately.



- Coughing or sneezing into their elbow if they don't have a tissue.
- Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds multiple times during the day.
- Remembering to wear a mask when stepping outside the house.

Contacts for additional information (Heads of Mini School)

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