



Darul Ulum College of Victoria

22 August 2021

Assalamu Alaikum Wr. Wb.

Respected Parents / Caregivers,

Update Re: School Temporary Closure

I write to update you with the recent developments of the school's temporary closure due to a confirmed Covid-19 case attending the female section of the school on 17 August.

Alhamdulillah, the school team has been working tirelessly with DHHS throughout these couple of days and evenings to reach to the best possible outcome, Insha'Allah.

Alhamdulillah, it is promising and encouraging to note that identified individuals who have completed their testing have received a Covid negative result thus far. May Allah keep it this way.

Consistent with the directives of DHHS, our school site has been categorised into three Tiers as per the outline below:

1. **Tier 1** exposure: This applies to all staff and students on the female side of the campus who were in **Building MK** on Tuesday 17 August (primary school students and staff from female side of the campus).

Course of Action: Anyone who has visited a Tier 1 exposure site on Tuesday 17 August must immediately isolate, [get a COVID-19 test](#), and quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure. DHHS is in direct contact with staff and families of this category.

2. **Tier 2** exposure: This applies to all staff and students on the female side of the campus who were in **Building D** on Tuesday 17 August (female secondary school students and staff from the female side of the campus).

Course of Action: Anyone who has visited a Tier 2 exposure site on Tuesday 17 August should urgently [get a COVID-19 test](#) and isolate until they receive a negative result. Continue to monitor for symptoms, get tested again if symptoms appear.

3. **Tier 3** exposure: This applies to all staff and students on the **male side** of the campus who were on the male side on Tuesday 17 August.

Course of Action: Anyone who has visited a Tier 3 exposure site during times listed should monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, immediately [get a COVID-19 test](#) and isolate until you receive a negative result.

For full details pertaining to the Tiers, please visit the DHHS link: [Case alerts – public exposure sites | Coronavirus Victoria](#)

We are now in the process of deep cleaning the site as per the guidelines of DHHS. Upon completion, the relevant documentation will be provided to DHHS then they will issue the approval for reopening the site, Insha'Allah.

On behalf of the school's management, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to Allah Ta'laa and thereafter, to the teachers and staff members who cooperated through this event and responded to the DHHS directives professionally and swiftly. I would also like to equally extend my gratitude and appreciation to the identified students and their families who were onsite on 17 August for their cooperation and commitment.

Communal Responsibility

Worthy to note that whilst the school has extensive and robust measures in place to mitigate the risk of exposure, nonetheless, given the nature of this pandemic, adhering to the health measures and safety restrictions inside and outside the school in our personal lives is of paramount importance. This is applicable to staff, students, parents and the broader community as a whole.

While we are all feeling fatigued by the lockdowns and restrictions, we still cannot afford to put our guards down by being complacent with the health directives and lockdown measures. Failing to exercise caution in our daily lives in times like this results in putting others in harm's way and is a direct compromise with our ethical and religious duty of care towards our surroundings, including ourselves.

Restrictions and Remote Learning

As predicted, the Premier, yesterday announced an extension of measures to control the growing spread of COVID-19. Additional measures are being implemented to protect children across the entire state.

All schools will continue with remote learning, except for vulnerable children and the children of authorised workers. This will only be applicable to our school when the school reopens. Until then, all students, including children of essential workers and vulnerable students are expected to continue with remote learning.

Face masks will still be mandatory outdoors and indoors (not at home) unless an exception applies – this includes secondary schools. Public health authorities also strongly recommend that primary school aged children, when they are not at home, also wear a mask as an extra precaution.

Further updates pertaining to this will be communicated as they are made available, Insha'Allah.

Message of Aspiration

With the extension of lockdowns, a sense of frustration and dissatisfaction will certainly creep in. As the literal meaning of the term outrightly suggests, ‘restriction’, can be nothing other than the absence of freedom which is a bounty that we always took for granted... Nonetheless, our faith leads us to the conviction that what might seem to be negative based on its face value, can be in fact enshrouded with ample goodness and *khair*. ***“But you may hate a thing although it is good for you, and may love a thing although it is evil for you. Allah knows, and you do not.”*** [216:2]

We are also reminded by our Merciful Creator that inevitably, ease will accompany hardship. ***“Surely with hardship comes ease.”*** [94:6]

Insha’Allah, our faith and steadfastness will certainly get us through this predicament we are in: ***“Do you think that you will enter Paradise while you have not yet been visited by (difficult) circumstances like those that were faced by the people who passed away before you? They were afflicted by hardship and suffering, and were so shaken down to the extent that the prophet, and those who believed with him, started saying: “When (will come) the help of Allah?” (Then, they were comforted by the Prophet who said to them) ‘Behold, the help of Allah is near.’”*** [214:2]

In conclusion, I would like to remind all parents and caregivers with the importance of scheduling physical activities in our daily programs and that of our children’s. Health experts confirm that there is a direct correlation between mental health, physical wellbeing, and physical activity. The government directives have always accommodated for this. Please refer to the current government directives for specific details.

For all other school directives pertaining to remote learning and student wellbeing, please visit the parents’ Schoolbox page in this link: <https://schoolbox.dulum.vic.edu.au/homepage/9251>

In the meantime, stay safe Insha’Allah.

Wassalam,

Abdurrahman Gokler [on behalf of DUCV Management]

Principal