

Date: 5 June 2020

Issue no.: 15

Dear Parent / Learner



Finally! We are easing into a return to school again and are looking forward to welcoming back our learners on campus as lockdown restrictions for independent schools are lifted.

This situation is evolving by the hour. Every school in South Africa must be struggling with what decisions are the “right” ones to make for their community. With that in mind, the “right” decision is one that considers public health guidance, the law, our school’s mission and culture, and our community’s safety. What is “right” for one school may not be right for another. Please keep this in mind as you review feedback about what other schools are doing.

The Covid-19 pandemic has affected millions of children worldwide this year. The financial and psychological impact that Covid-19 has on our society can be destructive to a child’s physical environment, as well as affect their mental health. As teachers, we are committed to keeping Curro Aurora safe and supporting our learners and their families.

As our schools implement their hybrid/remote learning plans, the question on many minds is, “How do we care for the whole child ...remotely?” Obviously, the importance of parental partnership is underscored now more than ever. Parents have an important role to play in helping children both prepare for and recover after a public health emergency.

It is difficult to predict how some children will respond to the effects that Covid-19 has on all of us. Because parents, teachers, and other adults see children in different situations, it is important for all of us to work together to share information about how each child is coping during lockdown and upon returning to school. When schools start reopening, teachers will welcome back children who may be different from the students they knew before the lockdown, and their needs for comfort, guidance and relationships are likely to be greater.

Our online schooling will continue in terms of our commitment that no child is left behind:

- Our goal is to include all our learners and families, and any special provisions necessary will be made to ensure a continuation of learning for all the children under our care;
- We will continue uploading work for those still in lockdown to ensure that no work is missed by the learners during this time;
- We will continue to deliver the curriculum to our learners to enable them to progress to the next grade;

- We repeatedly ask all learners to commit to their studies to ensure that they keep up to date with their curriculum and assignments as much as possible till such time as their grades are able to return to the classroom.

To accommodate the necessary safety precautions at school when entering the school campus, including temperature screening, PPE check and sanitising, the timetable times were adjusted. The adjusted timetable times will apply for both online and on-campus classes.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday		
Time Slot	Period	Activity
07:00 – 08:15		Arrive; Temperature screening; Sanitising
08:15 – 08:30	Period 1	Tutor & Admin; Recording of temperatures
08:30 – 09:15	Period 2	Academic lesson
09:15 – 10:00	Period 3	Academic lesson
10:00 – 10:45	Period 4	Academic lesson (Tuesday assembly period remains webinar)
10:45 – 11:05		BREAK – SOCIAL DISTANCING
11:05 – 11:50	Period 5	Academic lesson
11:50 – 12:35	Period 6	Academic lesson
12:35 – 12:55		BREAK – SOCIAL DISTANCING
12:55 – 13:40	Period 7	Academic lesson
13:40 – 14:25	Period 8	Academic lesson
14:25 – 15:00		BREAK / HOME TIME - SOCIAL DISTANCING
15:00 – 16:00		WEBINAR / ONLINE LEARNING grades 8 to 12 EXTRA CLASSES / ACADEMIC SUPPORT grade 12
Wednesday		
Time Slot	Period	Activity
07:00 – 08:15		Arrive; Temperature screening; Sanitising
08:15 – 08:30	Period 1	Tutor & Admin; Recording of temperatures
08:30 – 09:15	Period 2	Academic lesson
09:15 – 10:00	Period 3	Academic lesson
10:00 – 10:45	Period 4	Academic lesson
10:45 – 11:15		BREAK – SOCIAL DISTANCING
11:15 – 12:00	Period 5	Academic lesson
12:00 – 12:45	Period 6	Lesson 5
12:45 – 13:30	Period 1	CYCLE TEST PERIOD: ACADEMIC CATCH-UP (HOME) STAFF MEETING
14:00 – 15:00		WEBINAR / ONLINE LEARNING Grades 8 to 12

Two twenty-minute breaks are in place on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and a thirty-minute break on Wednesdays. During break times, learners are to practice social distancing and also wash their hands with soap and water.

Parents are requested to start the preparation for each school day with a symptoms check of their child/ children.

COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS / RETURN TO SCHOOL



We assure you that all the necessary precautions are being taken and that we will be ready to receive more of our learners.

Please pay a visit to our website for the latest on Curro during the time of COVID-19.

<https://www.curro.co.za/covid-19/>

Curro Aurora has been implementing the necessary safety precautions and procedures as detailed in a Standard Operating Procedures document.

These procedures include safety aspects and procedures that teachers, learners, parents, visitors to the campus and auxiliary staff will need to adhere to strictly.

The wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE) is compulsory and face masks have been provided to our Grade 12 learners by Curro, and will be provided to our Grade 11s next week.

Temperature screening and hand sanitising has become part of our daily routine upon entering the school premises and continued social distancing and regular washing of hands is a way of life for the foreseeable future.

Please take note of our school procedures – please talk your child through them at home so that they feel prepared upon returning to school.

PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS:

Parents to please follow this process when doing the morning drop off:

1. Have a pen and your temperature card ready. Not having this ready will lead to delays and traffic congestion.
2. Drive into TEMPERATURE CHECKPOINT 1, 2 or 3.
3. Once a temperature of 37.5°C or lower has been confirmed, drive through to a parking bay for drop off.
4. Learner move to SANITISING STATION 1 or 2 for screening and sanitizing.
5. Once screened learner may proceed to enter the school grounds maintaining SOCIAL DISTANCE.

Other notes to include:

We kindly request that parents keep to the following DROP OFF times:

1. Drop off times for the Grade 11s from Monday 8 June will be 6h45 – 7h30.
2. Drop off times for the Grade 12s will be 7h30 to 8h15.

3. **Aftercare** is fully operational from Monday, 8 June 2020. Parents arriving at school will need to follow the same procedure as a visitor, temperature check and recorded, sanitise and then enter campus, collect learner and leave.
4. **Private transport companies:**
 - **Drop of** – Learners will follow the normal arrival procedure (Temperature check, screening and sanitizing).
 - **Pick up or aftercare collection** – Driver to complete the visitors register, temperature check, sanitise, collect the learner and leave.
5. Learners needs to be **collected promptly** at the end of a school day unless attending aftercare.

PROCEDURES FOR LEARNERS:

• Check point 1: (Close to the Entrance Gate)

- Temperature of learner to be measured when arriving at school whilst still in car – NO physical contact is required.
- Learners to have their own temperature card (carried on them) ready. This will be provided upon return to school.
- **Learner needs to have a pen and the temperature card ready and record the temperature on the card while still seated in the car.**
- A mask must be worn correctly by all occupants in the car.
- ANY Covid-19 symptoms MUST be declared to the staff member taking the temperature.
- If temperature is 37.5° or higher and/or learner is not wearing their mask, they cannot move to Check Point 2 and parents will be asked to take the appropriate measures – please comply with these carefully.

• Check point 2:

- Hands will be sanitised.
- Check that temperature has been recorded on temperature card.
- Check correct wearing of face masks.
- Recording of temperature and **complete check list of symptoms on control sheet.**
- Any symptoms reported will be reported and the learner must leave the school immediately to seek medical attention and testing for COVID-19.

• Check point 3: (Pedestrian entrance gate)

- Check that temperature has been recorded on temperature card.
- Check correct wearing of face masks.
- Reminder of applicable **social distancing rules.**
- **Any visitors to the school (including parents) directed to main reception area for screening.**
- Any symptoms reported immediately.

• Check point 4:

- Sanitise hands.
- Tutor class for admin – record temperatures from COVID CARD onto an COVID19 control sheet, in the applicable date column.
- Complete daily Curro Temperature and Symptoms check sheet.
- Any symptoms reported immediately

• Check point 5:

- Sanitise hands before entering classroom.
- Lesson times are 45 min – please ensure that all lessons (online and on-campus) are recorded and shared via MS Teams platform.
- Sanitise hands when exiting classroom.
- Any symptoms reported immediately.

Please also note:

- Learners to be collected from the same areas at the end of the school day – sanitise upon leaving the school property.
- Two twenty-minute breaks are in place on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and a thirty-minute break on Wednesdays. During break times, learners are required to practice social distancing and also wash their hands with soap and water.
- It is recommended that learners also bring own hand sanitiser to school.
- Learners who have Primary School siblings are to collect their siblings from the quad area in front of the Primary School office where they are under supervision and move straight to transport collection point(s) – social distancing is vital.



Tips for Teams:

Keyboard shortcuts.



Did you know you can simply press the R key on your keyboard to reply to a thread in the Teams app? Or press Alt-A in Windows (Option-A on a Mac) to attach a file to a message quickly? See all the keyboard shortcuts available in Teams by pressing Ctrl+E to go to the Search field, type/keys, and then press Enter in Windows.

Press Command+E to move the focus to the search field at the top of the screen, type/keys, and press Return on a Mac.

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

Kindly note that the secondhand shop at Curro Aurora will be operational as follows with effect from 3 June 2020.

Hours of Business

Mondays: 07h00 – 11h00

Wednesday: 11h00 – 15h00

Friday: 11h00 – 15h00

Only one family unit (parent and/or pupil) will be permitted access to the shop at a time. A system has been put in place for appointments of 15 minutes per visit. Any visits outside of appointments may result in parents having to wait outside the shop until they can be served. Every effort will be made to accommodate all requests.

Should you wish for your child to purchase clothing without you, the parent present, you are requested to send a letter which must include your family code authorising the transaction to be debited to your school fee account.

Strict Covid 19 precautions will always be in place. Parents entering the shop must be wearing a mask, sanitise and complete a register upon entering the secondhand shop. No entry will be allowed without a mask.

Please WhatsApp or phone the shop coordinator (Andy Watkins 083 783 3653) for appointments or for any other information you may need regarding the secondhand shop.

CULTURE

Mrs Saskia Snyders

Culture Council

Our challenge continues and we are astounded at how amazing our community of learners are. From painting to sewing; from dancing to baking. You name it and our Curro Aurora learners are doing it.

We would like to encourage our learners to continue to submit their creative ventures. Remember: when in doubt – CREATE!

Thank you to each and every learner who has been sharing their creativity with us. Watch the Curro Aurora Facebook page as well as Instagram account to see what our tribe has been up to. If you would like to share your creativity – please send your photos, videos, writing pieces to saskia.s@curro.co.za.

DARE TO CREATE: A POETRY SUBMISSION

Anonymous

hush my heart

and

be still

quiet now restless one

and

remember until

the stars burn out

and

the mountains crumble

there is a conqueror in you

so

gasp

call out

tremble,

then come back to me

and

be still.

Curro CAS

A creative and friendly reminder to all our talented learners who entered a solo piece for the performance categories for this year's VIRTUAL Curro CAS that your recorded entries are due.

Thank you very much to those learners who have submitted their entries already. It is exciting to see you all embrace this opportunity.

#iminvolved #bluepride

– Curro Arts –
SUPERHERO
2020

– CURRO –
CREATE
ARTS SUPERHERO

CAS Has Gone Virtual

Check out Curro Create's YouTube channel for tutorials and learn from the masters.

#Learners2Leaders

CURRO

A BIG creative thank you to every learner who has already submitted their Curro CAS entry. Solo Performance Entries, please make sure that you follow the steps that have been communicated on the Microsoft Teams platform. Stay Creative! Stay Healthy!

SPORT

Mr Adrian Ferreira

"I am not a perfectionist, but I like to feel that things are done well. More important than that, I feel an endless need to learn, to improve, to evolve."- Portuguese soccer player Cristiano Ronaldo, 5 time Ballon d'Or award winner.

"The harder you work. the luckier you get." - South African golfer Gary Player, 9 time major championship winner.



During this time of no sport being played and broadcast on television, I have been watching some interesting documentaries on individual sportsmen, sportswomen, teams and their achievements. Having watched many of these matches and tournaments on television, I found it most interesting to learn about the backstory of their achievements and triumphs and, in some cases, their failures and disappointments.

Many of these participants came from different backgrounds and cultures, growing up and developing in their sport under differing circumstances, to emerge as successful and world-class players. The common thread amongst all of them was a desire to achieve in their chosen sport and to work and practice hard in order to achieve this, despite any obstacle or setback that may have hindered their progress. The pure elation of success and victory for many of these people goes far beyond the moment of achievement and bears testament to the realisation of a dream and a goal set long before these successes.

While there are no organised sports taking place at this time, I encourage all our sports participants to continue working on their skills and fitness, and to envisage a personal goal that may be realised when sport resumes.

CURRO SPORT INITIATIVES

Please join the Curro Sport Facebook (https://web.facebook.com/CurroSport1/?_rdc=1&_rdr) and Instagram pages (@curro.sport) to #getinvolved with some exciting initiatives:

JUNE:

- **INTER-CURRO RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP –**

Date: 9 to 30 June 2020.

Venue: your neighbourhood

Distance: 4 x 1km in your neighbourhood at any time of day but on the same day.

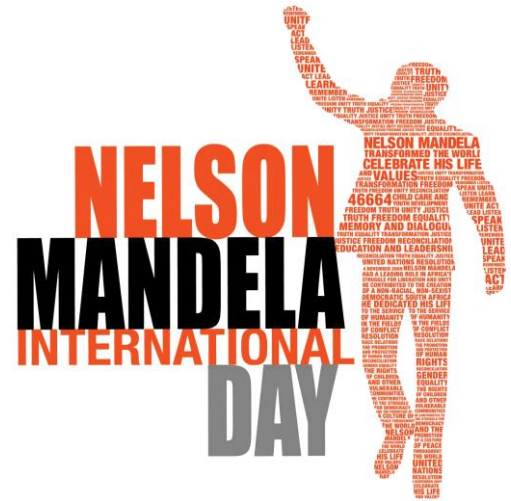
Categories: Girls; boys; mixed teams from the same Curro school. Once completed, send name and surname, a screenshot of phone, watch or any other device to prove that activity has been completed.

Age groups: U/10; U12; U/14; U16; U/18 and even a category for Curro staff (2 men and 2 ladies).

There will be a leader-board on social media displaying best times in each category and challenging teams to beat this time.



Prizes (vouchers) for winning teams of each category.

- **MANDELA DAY – Curro Family 5km Big Walk.**
Date: Saturday, 18 June 2020.
Venue: Your neighbourhood.
Time: 06:00 – 18:00.
Entry: Non-perishable food which will be donated to charity.
Request to wear Curro/anything blue – dress up for some extra fun!
Once the walk has been completed – send name and surname; a screenshot of phone, watch or any other device to prove that completed the walk/run accompanied by a photo or video of family.
Share pictures and videos on social media.



ONLINE CAREER and SUBJECT CHOICE ASSESSMENTS

Mrs Tina Doukas, our campus-based educational psychologist is offering online Grade 9 subject choice and Grade 10 to 12 career assessments.



ONLINE

Grade 9 Subject Choice and Grade 10 - 12 Career Assessments

- Online Psychometric Assessments (2 – 3 hours)
 - Testing Aptitude, Personality and Interests
- Full Report and Feedback
- Secure Online Platform
- Medical aid accepted

For Bookings, please contact Tina Doukas (Educational Psychologist)
Mind + Me Psychology Practice
071 715 2406 / tina@mindandme.co.za / HPCSA Reg. No. 0125130

WEARING A MASK TO SCHOOL

Mrs SJ Olivier

You will be provided with two masks by the school. You are welcome to wear your own mask. Remember that your cloth mask must have a minimum of two layers. **You may not re-use a single use mask.**

Always wear your mask correctly! The mask must cover your nose and your mouth and fit snugly over the bridge of your nose and against the sides of your face.



Before you put your mask on, wash or sanitise your hands properly.

Remember that you will have to be wearing your mask when you arrive at the school gate to have your temperature checked.

Avoid touching your mask while you are wearing it. Make sure your mask fits correctly so that you do not need to adjust it. If you do touch your mask, be sure to sanitise your hands immediately.



When removing your mask, do not touch the front of the mask. Remove it by using the ties around your head or behind your ears.

Wash your mask after every use.

COMMUNICATION:

During this period of lockdown, it is vital that we have open communication channels as we will be expecting learners to continue their learning whilst at home. Various channels of communication are being used, including e-mails, WhatsApp groups, ITSI and Microsoft Teams.

Contact details of the School Management Team and Grade Heads herewith for easy reference:

Receptionist	Cindy Duma	Cindy.D3@curro.co.za
Head of High School	Dion Kotze	Dion.K@curro.co.za
FET Phase Head	Sarah-Jane Olivier	Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za
Snr Phase Head	Donne Valkenburg	Donne.V1@curro.co.za
Head of Sport	Adrian Ferreira	Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za
Head of Culture	Saskia Snyders	Saskia.S@curro.co.za
Grade 12 Heads	Nicole Webb	Nicole.W2@curro.co.za
	Maria Chou	Maria.C@curro.co.za

Grade 11 Heads	Judy Beeston	Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za
	Anita Bornman	Anita.B@curro.co.za
Grade 10 Heads	Janine Tobin	Janine.T@curro.co.za
	Wendy Longwitz	Wendy.L2@curro.co.za
Grade 9 Heads	Kelsey Gallon	Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za
	Brendan van Zyl	Brendan.v@curro.co.za
Grade 8 Heads	Kyla Hayter	Kyla.H@curro.co.za
	Warrick Hammond	Warrick.H@curro.co.za

HAMPERS OF HOPE

Hampers of Hope

Each hamper costs R150 and is going to be donated to the Fountainebleau community church. The church helps shelters for the homeless.

Curro Aurora's Grade 10s are putting together food hampers, but we need all the help we can get!

How can you help? We would love for you to sponsor a hamper or more!



For more information, please contact: janine.1@curro.co.za or wendy.2@curro.co.za

#Learners2Leaders
www.curro.co.za


THOUGHT TO PONDER:



We wish you and your loved ones continued health – please keep safe.

Yours in education,

Dion Kotze
Head of High School.