

Date: 19 June 2020

Issue no.: 17

Dear Parent / Learner

The return to school is an exciting time for learners and teachers and, no doubt, a blessed relief for many parents and carers. It is also a critical time regarding maximising learning opportunities, both during and after this transition.



We are changed and different now, and we can move forward together, being kind and supportive to all. Many learners thrive off known boundaries and predictable daily routines. The unprecedented level of responsibility that school kids of all ages have had to embrace, is worth both celebrating and harnessing. Building on these new levels of confidence and autonomy is vital, creating a safe and supportive learning environment where learners are challenged to strive for success.

Learners with effective access to technology at home (and hence, online delivery of learning) may have progressed well in their learning during the study at home period, while other learners with no, or limited access, and/or learners with additional learning needs, may have made limited progress. One might coin this the '*COVID Diversity Gap*', and it will only serve to exacerbate existing variance between our least and most needy learners upon their return to class.

The need to differentiate classroom learning is now greater than before. Importantly, the impact of this increased learning gap may extend well beyond learners' perception of their academic progress, negatively impacting on their wellbeing. By showing empathy to our children (as in 'we're all in this together') and acknowledging the difficulties faced during self-isolation, we can support them.

During the lockdown period, all teachers have needed to take care not to overload, exhaust and frustrate parents and carers with too many demands to support their children's learning. COVID-19 has created so many complexities, insecurities, and anxieties.

We have all been trying to balance and deal with the impacts on our own work from home lives. Happily, it would appear, this has created more opportunities for parent and carer understanding and empathy for the work of teachers, and for teachers to grasp the complexities of a work-from-home environment. There may never have been a better time for our Curro Aurora community to harness this new depth of relationship to support learning and we sincerely hope that the foundation has been laid for closer interaction between teacher, parent and learner going forward.

Thank you to our parent body and our learners who have embraced this new normal – together we are doing this!

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

All Curro schools will adhere to the term dates which Executive Heads announced to their respective school communities in the letter to parents dated 26 May 2020 as follows:

Curro Aurora						
Term 2	Days	Term 3	Days	Term 4	Days	Total days
1 Apr – 31 May (ONLINE ONLY)	(40)	6 July – 23 Sep	57	28 Sep – 9 Dec	53	129
1 Jun – 26 June (BLENDED APPROACH)	19	(BLENDED APPROACH)		(BLENDED APPROACH)		(169)

**Please note:** Term 2 will therefore close on **Friday 26 June, at 14:25.**

Schools will open for Term 3 for staff and learners on Monday 6 July 2020.

We have received the first draft of the adjusted Grade 12 exams this week and hope to have received the final version before the start of our third term too.

The last day of school is scheduled for 9 December at this stage, but some learners will finish a bit earlier, depending on the examination timetable which we will compile as soon as we have a final version of the Grade 12 timetable as it impacts on venue availability.

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 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 until such time as their grades are able to return to the classroom.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is to be worn on Mondays and Fridays, allowing enough time to have the uniform cleaned. Should you (the learner) have PE on a Monday or a Friday, please wear your full school tracksuit with blue pride T-shirt. We ask that learners are dressed neatly (and warmly) for school please. From 6 July we will revert back to the normal school uniform on all days.

## 50% CAPACITY MEASURES:

### GRADE 10, 11 & 12:

The group of learners at school will receive the daily teaching face to face, learners not at school due to comorbidities in the family will receive the same teaching via MS Teams,

#### From 22 June to 26 June:

**Grade 11 learners** will be taught online and **Grade 10 learners on campus** – this is to assist Grade 10 learners who may need assistance after an extended lockdown period and to ensure that they are ready to tackle the third term.

#### From 6 July (Third Term):

The group of learners at school will receive the daily teaching face to face, learners not at school will receive the same teaching via MS Teams

- At 50% capacity our **Grade 11** learners will be at school for face-to-face teaching on **days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9** and continue with online learning on days 2; 4; 6; 8 and 10 and rotate with Grade 10 learners as from 6 July. This will limit the number of bodies on campus for each day.
- Our **Grade 10** learners will be at school for face-to-face teaching on **days 2; 4; 6; 8 and 10** and continue with online learning on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9 as from 6 July.
- **For all learners to be taught by their teachers at school, we will be following our normal timetable, practicing social distancing as far as possible and making use of bigger venues for bigger groups whenever possible.**
- The group of learners at school will receive the daily teaching face to face, learners not at school will receive the same teaching via MS Teams, online.

### GRADE 8 & 9

#### From 22 June: (Week 1 starts 22 June)

- 50% of learners in a tutor class to be at school on any specific day. This will limit the number of bodies on campus for each day.
- Grades 8 and 9 learners will be stationary in one venue and not move classes
- For all learners to be taught by their teachers at school, we will be following a normal two-week cycle whereby each class is split into two groups, Group A and B.
  - **Group A** will have face-to face classes on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9 and online classes on days 2; 4; 6; 8; 10.
  - **Group B** will have face-to-face classes on days 2; 4; 6; 8 and 10 and online classes on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9.
- After each two-week cycle, the groups will swop around.

The syllabus will continue as normal through-out face-to-face and online classes

## SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

Kindly note that the secondhand shop at Curro Aurora is operational as follows:

### 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*

### Curro Create Arts Superhero



Thank you so very much to all our creative learners for submitting their entries. For those of you who still need to submit your SOLO performance entries, please note that the final due date is **26 June 2020**. All submission entries (Write It! Tweet It and Shoot It!) that have not been submitted, please note that you need to send your entries to Mrs Snyders (Saskia.s@curro.co.za) or hand them in in person at school.

These submission entries must please reach Mrs Snyders by the 25th of June so that she can send it to Curro CAS adjudicators by the 26th of June.

#bluepride #involved

## National Eisteddfod of South Africa

The National Eisteddfod of South Africa for 2020 is going ahead with exciting changes and new opportunities.

**ENTRIES  
ARE  
OPEN**



Closing date for online entries: 31 July 2020

**#Learners2Leaders**

# CURRO

Aurora

We need not reiterate that we are living through a lot of change and uncertainties. One thing is certain, and that is that arts and culture have always been able to overcome turbulent times and that the arts are a positive force for our community.

Therefore, we encourage our talented learners to enter this year's National Eisteddfod Academy. Entries are completed online, and step-by-step instructions have been sent through to all the high school families through MyHub.

Entries close: **31 July 2020**.

For more information, do not hesitate to contact Mrs Snyders (Saskia.s@curro.co.za).

– 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 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 Jonathan Wernich*

Curro Aurora is challenging all their athletes and staff to participate in the Inter-Curro relay 1km challenge on **Thursday, 25 June 2020!**

Athletes need to run 1 kilometre as fast as they can anytime on Thursday, 25 June. This can be run anywhere! You might want to find a little downhill.

Once completed, athletes need to send the following information to Mr Jonathan Wernich (Jono.w@curro.co.za) by 10:00 on Friday, 26 June 2020:

- Send name and surname
- Send screenshot or picture of phone, watch or any device to prove that your run has been completed
- Send a screenshot or picture of your time!

We are looking for female and male athletes in the following age groups:

- u/9 and u/10
- u/11 and u/12
- u/13 and u/14
- u/16
- u/18
- Staff! Special prize for staff who can run under 4 minutes!

There are prizes to be won for the fastest teams in each category.

We are looking forward to having everyone involved in the Inter-Curro 1km relay challenge!

## 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.

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.
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:

1. **Drop off times:** Grade 12s 7h30 to 8h15; Grade 11s 6h45 – 7h30; Grades 8 and 9 - 7h15 – 8h00.
2. 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.
3. **Private transport companies:**
  - **Drop off** – 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.
4. Learners needs to be **collected promptly** at the end of a school day unless attending aftercare.

## PROCEDURES FOR LEARNERS:

### •Check point 1: (At the main 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 (provided upon return to school) that must be carried on them.

- **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, then they cannot move to check point 2 and parents will be asked to take the appropriate measures – please comply with these carefully.
- Any symptoms reported immediately.

#### • Check point 2:

- Sanitise hands.
- 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 immediately.

#### • 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 Excel spreadsheet, in the applicable date column.
- Complete 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 bring own hand sanitizer 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.

## WINTER WARMER INITIATIVE



Curro Aurora High School's Culture Council is fully behind the community service winter warmer initiative!

They are inspired to create for the benefit of others. You too can join the Culture Council in supporting this - dare to start creating today and change someone's life for the better!

#currocares #learners2leaders #bluepride

## 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**

**MIND + me**

**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](mailto:tina@mindandme.co.za) / HPCSA Reg. No. 0125130

## 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:

<b>Receptionist</b>	Cindy Duma	<a href="mailto:Cindy.D3@curro.co.za">Cindy.D3@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Head of High School</b>	Dion Kotze	<a href="mailto:Dion.K@curro.co.za">Dion.K@curro.co.za</a>
<b>FET Phase Head</b>	Sarah-Jane Olivier	<a href="mailto:Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za">Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Snr Phase Head</b>	Donne Valkenburg	<a href="mailto:Donne.V1@curro.co.za">Donne.V1@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Head of Sport</b>	Adrian Ferreira	<a href="mailto:Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za">Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za</a>
<b>Head of Culture</b>	Saskia Snyders	<a href="mailto:Saskia.S@curro.co.za">Saskia.S@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 12 Heads</b>	Nicole Webb	<a href="mailto:Nicole.W2@curro.co.za">Nicole.W2@curro.co.za</a>
	Maria Chou	<a href="mailto:Maria.C@curro.co.za">Maria.C@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 11 Heads</b>	Judy Beeston	<a href="mailto:Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za">Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za</a>
	Anita Bornman	<a href="mailto:Anita.B@curro.co.za">Anita.B@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 10 Heads</b>	Janine Tobin	<a href="mailto:Janine.T@curro.co.za">Janine.T@curro.co.za</a>
	Wendy Longwitz	<a href="mailto:Wendy.L2@curro.co.za">Wendy.L2@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 9 Heads</b>	Kelsey Gallon	<a href="mailto:Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za">Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za</a>
	Brendan van Zyl	<a href="mailto:Brendan.v@curro.co.za">Brendan.v@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 8 Heads</b>	Kyla Hayter	<a href="mailto:Kyla.H@curro.co.za">Kyla.H@curro.co.za</a>
	Warrick Hammond	<a href="mailto:Warrick.H@curro.co.za">Warrick.H@curro.co.za</a>

## 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.t@curro.co.za or wendy.l2@curro.co.za

**#Learners2Leaders**

[www.curro.co.za](http://www.curro.co.za)

**CURRO**  
Aurora

## 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.

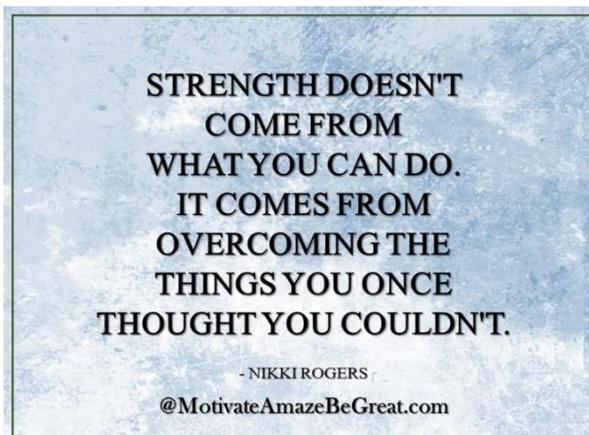
Avoid touching your mask while you are wearing it. Make sure your mask fits correctly so that you do not need to adjust it. If you do touch your mask, be sure to sanitise your hands immediately.

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.



## THOUGHT TO PONDER:



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

Yours in education,

Dion Kotze  
Head of High School