

Dear Parents,

I am writing to request your full support in following the mandatory DHA protocols and guidelines relating to COVID-19. We are being inspected regularly by authorities to ensure we adhere to protocols but more importantly to safeguard all students and staff whilst in school.

Every day we are presented with a number of children in school displaying the traditional symptoms for this time of year; a bit of a sore throat, a runny nose etc. and prior to the pandemic this sort of symptom may well have been deemed mild enough for them to attend school. However, this is now not the case and we really need everyone's support to minimise as much risk as possible in order to keep the school running as near to normal as possible.

Listed below are FAQs that we feel would be useful for our Parent Community:

Q1. My child has a bit of a runny nose do I really have to keep them at home?

If your child describes or displays **any** COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, please keep them at home and seek medical guidance.

Q2. What are the Covid-19 symptoms I should be looking for?

COVID-19 related symptoms are;

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

Q3. What happens if my child becomes ill during the school day?

If your child has to visit the Nurses during the school day and displays **any** of the COVID-19 symptoms, they will be placed in our Isolation Room. You will be called to collect your child and will be required to seek a medical diagnosis which is likely to include a COVID-19 PCR test.

Q4. My child is feeling a little unwell, can I give medication and send to school?

Under **no** circumstances should you be sending your child to school if they are in need / or have taken any medication. The administration of medication can mask COVID symptoms and therefore we may not detect signs that would normally raise concern.

Q5. My child has been given the all clear from the doctor, but they still have a runny nose, sore throat, etc., can they come back now?

Should your child continue to display symptoms, even with an 'all clear' from the doctor, they must remain at home.

Q6. My child has been off ill but is now well enough to return to school, what do I need to do?

During the absence you should ensure that your child obtains medical advice. Even if they have NOT had any direct or indirect contact with any COVID positive case you **MUST** obtain a medical diagnosis and/or a negative PCR test prior to your child being permitted to return to school.

The regular and unannounced inspections from KHDA, DHA and DM are welcomed by The English College and I can assure you that we take action on every recommendation made but this is a joint effort and we really need the support of parents to ensure the health and safety of the whole school community.

Thank you all so much in advance for your support. In case of any questions, please do contact our Nurses via nurse@englishcollege.ac.ae

Mark Ford
Principal
The English College