



RAND PREPARATORY AND COLLEGE NPC

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25 May 2020 **PREP NEWSLETTER NO 6 OF 2020 COLLEGE NEWSLETTER NO 7 OF 2020**

Dear Grade 7 and 12 Parents

REOPENING OF SCHOOL FOR GRADE 7 AND 12 LEARNERS: 1 JUNE 2020

I hope that my newsletter finds you and your families well and coping under these circumstances.

The purpose of this newsletter is to confirm the requirements we need to follow for all learners in **Grades 7 and 12 that return to school on Monday, 1 June 2020.**

1. In line with President Ramaphosa's announcement, no child is obliged to return to school. If a parent feels that the return to school will present a risk to either to the child or the family at home, then it is your right to withhold your child from school. If you feel this is what you would like to do, please email me directly so that I can enter into discussions with you to reach a possible way forward for your child.
2. It will be **compulsory** for each child arriving at school to have at **least one, preferably two, cloth facemasks.** In addition to a facemask, your child is most welcome to wear a face shield as well. Facemasks become damp with continual use and your child may find it uncomfortable to wear a damp mask. Therefore, the ability to switch masks may help tremendously.
3. Each child is expected to have a pocket sized bottle of sanitiser on their person at all times.
4. The school will station bottles of sanitiser in each classroom for use by the children.
5. Mobile, foot operated sanitiser stations will be positioned near the entrance gates (both 6th and 7th Avenue), outside both computer labs, and strategically around the school where there is a high traffic volume.
6. The grade 12 class will be divided into two groups. The Grade 7 group, because they are a small group, will remain as one class.
7. All learners are required to enter the school at the 7th Avenue entrance. As the learners enter, they will have their temperature taken using an infra-red thermometer. Staff or prefects will be stationed at the gate to apply hand sanitiser and to check that children entering the school are wearing face masks.
8. Children may not be closer than 1.5 meters from each other and staff will be on duty to ensure that social distancing takes place.
9. Line-ups will take place on the 1st June however, the children will not be in close proximity to each other. The rules regarding the running of the day will be explained to the learners at this line up.
10. Every child will be assigned a desk at which they must sit. Children may NOT switch desks nor may they walk around during class time.

11. Teachers will move from classroom to classroom when lessons change.
12. If the child needs to move to a different venue, for example the computer lab, then they will be required to sanitise their hands on leaving the classroom. Hands must also be sanitised on entering the new venue.
13. Specific protocols will apply as indicated in my previous letter for specific venues. Please refer to the appropriate letter for specific protocols.
14. We cannot allow children to share any textbooks or stationery. The risk of passing on the COVID-19 virus exists and therefore, this can no longer be allowed. Children must have their own stationery and textbooks. Similarly, the sharing of cell phones or electronic devices (including ear phones) cannot be allowed.
15. While we only have a few children at school, the Grade 12 and 7 learners will attend school each day. As more grades return, we may have to alternate days when children attend school. You will be advised timeously of these type of arrangements.
16. Online teaching and the use of Google Classroom will probably continue for the foreseeable future. Teachers can no longer physically mark exercise books so the probability is high that work will have to be turned in electronically to allow teachers to mark this work.
17. Grade 7 learners will be allowed to bring electronic devices to school in order to work on Google classroom. Access to the school's Wi-Fi will be provided for all learners.
18. Break times will be staggered so that we minimise the number of children on break at any one time. The Tuckshop will be operating from 1 June and they will also follow strict sanitisation protocols.
19. When children leave the school at the end of the day, they will have to sanitise their hands as they exit the property.
20. Our cleaning staff will continually sanitise high traffic / volume areas with disinfectant. Areas such as toilet door handles, toilet flush mechanisms, door handles, high traffic touch surfaces will be wiped down at least once an hour.
21. After school, all desks will be sanitised and classrooms cleaned thoroughly with high strength disinfectants.

Parents, while I know that sending your child back to school is an emotional issue, I do believe that if everyone plays their part and makes sure that from the time children leave home until they return home, we practice social distancing and wear masks, we can, together, keep our children safe.

A number of service providers have approached me with the sale of facemasks and face shields for our learners. I will put out a separate circular with prices of these items at a later stage.

If you would like to raise any issue with me regarding these measures, please feel free to email me.

Yours sincerely



Mr B Harris
Executive Headmaster



Mrs R Pretorius
Principal: Rand Preparatory