

GUIDELINES FOR THE SAFE REOPENING OF SCHOOLS ON MONTSERRAT

Recommended measures for the phased reopening of schools to accommodate students and teachers who need to use the facilities to conduct educational activities and to prepare for examinations.

Minimum 6ft/2m



GENERAL GUIDELINES

Persons who are unwell must stay at home.

All persons on the compound are required to wear face masks.

Each school is required to inform parents and students about the measures the school is putting in place to allow for students to re-enter the premises for classes/activities.

Each school is required to explain to the students the importance and reasons for school-related measures being implemented.

Each school is required to reinforce the

need for strict compliance with the guidelines for the return to school.

Each school is required to take any appropriate action to protect the interest of staff and students by persons who are found to be in any breach of the protocols while on the school compound.



TRANSPORT TO AND FROM SCHOOL

For short distances, students should walk to school.

Persons who must take public transportation should wear face masks and comply with instructions issued by the bus service operator.

Physical distancing measures on transportation must be adhered to by

students travelling to and from school on public service/school buses including the 1 person per seat rule.

Students may need to leave home earlier due to the limits on the number of passenger per bus.

Wherever possible, windows of the bus should be kept open.



ON ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

Ensure the enforcement of physical distancing by using aids such as floor marking, ribbons or physical barriers.

Stagger arrival and departure times for students to limit exposure to crowds.

Consideration should be given to arranging for different small groups of students, according to class/form, subject or nature of the activities to enter and exit the school to reduce congestion.

Restrict the number of entry points into the school to control



the flow and number of persons on the compound.

Designate separate access and exit routes for various groups, where appropriate.

DURING SCHOOL

Avoid assigning group work to students to ensure compliance with the social distancing protocol.

Limit the number of students undertaking classes to between 5 and 15 maximum per room.

Space desks to adhere to the physical distancing guideline of least 6 feet apart.

Keep open, where feasible all doors to classrooms, labs, specialist rooms and other areas occupied by staff and students.

Post at the door entrances the

maximum number of people that can safely stay in the room at the same time.

Direct all students not to congregate while at school.

Strictly enforce physical distancing of 6 feet apart at all time for everyone on the compound during school.

Enforce the wearing of facemasks at all time while on the compound. Failure to comply will result in student not being allowed on the compound.

Upon entering a classroom, sanitize hands with provided hand sanitizers.

DURING SCHOOL

continued...

Ensure regular cleaning and sanitizing of desks, chairs and the general classroom, laboratory or specialist room must be done before and after use.

Limit or prevent the mix of classes during school and after school activities.

Restrict/limit the switching of groups of teachers. Encourage students to stay with the same teacher for the duration of their instruction sessions.

Implement measures to control the movement of students into and out of the classroom and around the school.

Require students in a class to stay in one classroom for the duration of their class session.

Discourage/prohibit the sharing of resources such as electronic devices, textbooks etc.

Assign a specific desk and chair to each student which should be used that student only.

Sanitize all desks and chair used by student and teachers prior to the start of classes and at the end of classes.

Place garbage bins which are outfitted with disposable garbage bags in each

DURING SCHOOL

continued...

**classroom, staffroom,
lab, workshop or
specialist room.**

**Ensure that garbage
bins are emptied daily
and washed at least
twice a week.**

**Establish an order for
each class to enter and
leave the
building/classroom.**



PRECAUTIONS FOR UNWELL STUDENTS

Students who are unwell must stay at home.

Designate a room for the accommodation of students who develop or display signs of illness.

Any student who exhibits signs of illness during class or while on the school compound must be sent/taken to the sick bay or designated room.

Notify the parents of the student immediately.

Follow the national protocols where students display any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, dry cough, sore

throat, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste). Parents must keep their children at home, contact a medical doctor or call the hotline 496-9724 or the Casualty on 491-2802 and explain the situation.

Recommend that the student be taken to a medical facility.

Staff and parents of students must inform the principal about any illness.

Encourage parents and students to follow the guidance from the ministry of health on what to do when someone in the household is sick and self-isolating.

PRECAUTIONS FOR UNWELL STAFF

Staff who are unwell must stay at home.

Designate a room for the accommodation of staff who may develop or display signs of illness while on the compound.

Any staff member who exhibits signs of illness while on the school compound must follow the national protocols set out by the Ministry of Health.

Any staff member with any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, dry cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste)

must stay at home, contact a medical doctor, medical facility or call the hotline 496-9724 or the Casualty on 491-2802 and explain the situation.

Staff and parents of students must inform the principal about any illness.

Staff members must follow the guidance from the Ministry of Health on what to do when someone in the household is sick and self-isolating.

A nurse will be stationed at the school to provide support.

BATHROOM FACILITIES

Staff and students must wash hands before and after using the toilet with soap and water.

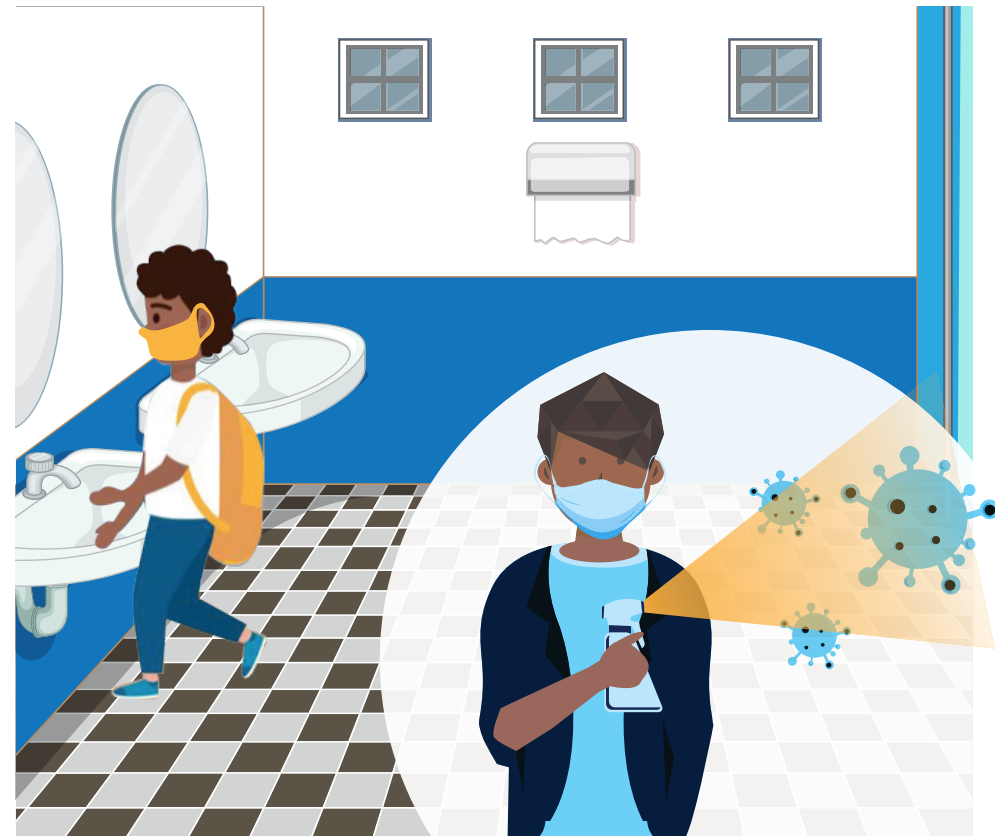
Toilets must be flushed with closed lids.

Physical distancing must be respected as much as possible.

Restrict the number of persons allowed or present in the toilet area at the same time.

Ensure regular cleaning and sanitizing of bathroom facilities and areas especially in the morning and afternoon and throughout the day.

Cleaning records of bathrooms must be displayed and inspected frequently by supervisors.



STAFF ACOMMODATION

Organise work so that physical distancing rules are respected by those present at school.

Create sufficient distance between workstations by spacing them further apart.

Rearrange workstations in a way to maintain a sufficient distance e.g. do not use certain desks in open spaces, place some workstations in separate spare rooms.

Place workstation in a way that people work back to back or side by side rather than face to face.

Apply floor markings showing safe distance between workstations.

Limit internal circulation as much as possible – instruct staff not to go to rooms or places where they do not have to be present.

Use sanitary wipes or alcohol to sanitize telephone and all stationary.

Consider introducing one-way traffic or priority rules on narrow stairs where people cannot keep a sufficient distance when passing each other (for example priority for those coming down).

STAFF ACOMMODATION

continued...

Consider introducing one-way traffic in corridors where people meet often or without sufficient distance. Use these rules both inside and outside the building for example in car parks.

Cancel non-essential physical meetings, trainings and travels.

Where meetings are necessary seek to have them convene in well ventilated areas with adequate physical spacing. Keep meetings to the shortest time possible to be effective.

Use alternatives to face-to-face meetings, such as digital tools and digital means of communication.

