

Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

Please also see **JPS Stay at Home Policy:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1toD0G2IYnruim0y6-4ywApPF4J8GhQAcBW7Tcz4PnxA/e/dit?usp=sharing>

Concerns and Queries	Responses from JPS Team
<p><i>My child has been described as a potential 'close contact'. What is a 'close contact' of a COVID-19 Positive case?</i></p>	<p>Outside of school, a 'close contact' (also referred to as a 'primary contact') is a direct family member and/or people living in the same house who spend a significant amount of time together in close contact (within 2m for more than 15 minutes). It can also include friends of the family where they have spent time together (within 2m for more than 15 minutes. These are consecutive minutes, not 15 minutes over the course of the day.)</p> <p>Inside of school, the DHA would consider a 'close/primary contact' to be anyone who has spent 15 minutes or longer within 2 metres of another person who tests positive for COVID-19. These are consecutive minutes, not 15 minutes over the course of the day.</p>
<p><i>What is a 'secondary contact' and what impact does this have on my family?</i></p>	<p>A 'secondary contact' is anyone who has been in contact with a 'close contact' ('primary contact'). 'Secondary contacts' are not expected to quarantine unless the 'close/primary contact' tests positive. This is because they would then become a 'close/primary contact' of a positive COVID-19 case and the 14 days of quarantine would apply.</p>
<p><i>What happens in school if a family member of a student at JPS tests positive for COVID-19?</i></p>	<p>If a parent or sibling of a child in JPS tests positive for COVID-19, all members of the household are considered 'close/primary contacts' and must spend 14 days at home. A PCR test is not mandatory for a 'close/primary contact' because the quarantine period is mandatory. Monitoring to look for symptoms is necessary. A PCR test must be taken if symptoms develop. No further action would be taken with other children in school as they are considered 'secondary contacts' of a 'primary contact' student.</p> <p>The DHA will be informed and will contact the family to support.</p>

Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

<p><i>What happens if a child attending JPS tests positive for COVID-19?</i></p>	<p>The child will be required to quarantine for 14 days and symptoms must be monitored. The child cannot return to school until they have quarantined for 14 days, received a negative PCR test result and had clearance from the DHA. Family members and others living in the same house will be considered 'close/primary contacts' of a COVID-19 positive case and must isolate at home for 14 days, monitoring for symptoms.</p> <p>Contact tracing in school looks at seating plans or children within the stable group bubble. Anyone who sits within 2 metres of a child who tests positive may be considered a 'close/primary contact'. Children within a stable learning bubble/group could also be considered a 'close/primary contact'. JPS would seek guidance from the DHA/KHDA to finalise the details of this group of children/adults.</p> <p>All 'close/primary contacts' will be contacted and required to remain home for 14 days. The children will be moved to online learning and symptoms must be monitored. 'Close/primary contacts' can only return to school after the 14 day quarantine has been completed. A PCR test is not mandatory for a 'close/primary contact' and a negative PCR test of a COVID-19 positive child or 'close/primary contact' does not allow a child to return to school before the 14 day period at home has been completed.</p>
<p><i>What happens to siblings of a positive case?</i></p>	<p>The sibling of a positive case would need to isolate at home for 14 days as outlined above, as they are deemed a 'close/primary contact'.</p>
<p><i>What happens to a sibling of a child who is considered a 'close/primary contact'?</i></p>	<p>A sibling of a child who is considered a 'close/primary contact' can continue as normal in school. They are deemed a 'secondary contact'.</p>
<p><i>What happens if a Teacher tests positive for COVID-19?</i></p>	<p>Contact tracing will take place in school to determine if any children or staff have spent 15 consecutive minutes or more within 2 metres of the confirmed positive case. Anyone considered a 'close/primary contact' will need to stay at home for 14 days. If the teacher is a class teacher, the school will seek advice from the DHA and KHDA as to whether the entire class should close and switch to online learning for a period of 14 days.</p>

Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

My teacher was deemed a 'close/primary contact' so can I come to school?

When a teacher is deemed a 'close/primary contact', they will be required to begin a 14 day quarantine and will move to delivering online learning from their home but the class may come to school to access the online learning from their classroom, with supervision and support from another teacher in the room. 'Close/primary contacts', both teachers and children, must continue to monitor their symptoms and remain at home for 14 days.

My teacher is unwell today. What communication will I receive from school?

Your class will be notified when a teacher is not well and informed of who will be taking their class for the day. The details of a teacher's sickness are not shared with the class unless they receive a Positive COVID-19 diagnosis, in which case parents will be notified immediately. Over the term, children and members of staff will continue to experience other non-COVID-19-related illnesses.

When will I be informed if there is a positive case at JPS?

The DHA and KHDA are very clear that we only communicate with those that are considered 'close/primary contacts' or 'secondary contacts', so as not to cause unnecessary anxiety or panic within the wider community. Anyone considered a 'close/primary contact' will be contacted by the school and informed of next steps. Children will be moved to online learning. 'Secondary contacts' (i.e. the remainder of the class or year group) will also be informed of the positive case within the class/year group and the steps the school has taken.

Every decision regarding Health and Safety is made in consultation with GEMS, DHA and KHDA.

During these times, we would like to thank everyone for supporting all members of the JPS Family and for working together to keep us all safe, whilst keeping calm. As a Leadership Team, we are very happy to respond to individual queries quickly to allay any concerns.

We will continue to update our FAQs as new queries arise.

Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

<p><u>Safety Procedures</u></p> <p>For staff/ families who have travelled, will they be asked to quarantine for 14 days if returning to school within this period?</p> <p>Are staff required to do PCR test before school starts?</p> <p>Are staff routinely screened on a regular basis?</p> <p>How is 1.5m distancing ensured in classes considering there are 25+kids?</p> <p>Can we have the pictures of the actual classroom layout?</p> <p>Can reusable masks be worn or must they be disposable? Are there any exemptions for children with health concerns?</p> <p>What happens if someone in the class tests positive?</p> <p>In reference to the below point on the undertaking letter, the requirement to provide a negative Covid-19 test is not applicable to children under the age of 12.</p> <p>o I have not, nor have any member(s) of my household, traveled outside of the UAE within the past 30 days or if I or any member(s) of my household have travelled, I confirm that the persons travelling have since received a negative Covid-19 test result.</p>	<p>We will follow official guidance and, at the moment, this is now a requirement for children under 12 years old to undergo a 14 day quarantine with 100% Distance Learning.</p> <p>All JPS staff who did travel returned by 9th August in order to complete a 14-day quarantine, if required.</p> <p>Yes - All members of staff have been tested, this includes those outsourced but onsite.</p> <p>Staff are screened every time they enter the building using the thermal cameras</p> <p>There will be markings on the floor for tables and chairs and these have been carefully measured to ensure a distance of 1.5m is maintained.</p> <p>Yes, Jordan Elam (PRE) will share videos/ pictures of classrooms that are set up on our social media platforms.</p> <p>Masks must be worn at all times and will only be removed for eating and physical activity. Reusable and disposable masks are allowed to be worn. If a mask cannot be worn because of health reasons, a medical certificate will be required.</p> <p>If there is a suspected or confirmed case in school, we will follow endorsed DHA guidelines for emergencies by the school's qualified nurse/ doctor.</p> <p>At JPS, we will be following the Dubai Government guidelines. There has not been the requirement made for children under 12 to take a COVID-19 test however they must participate in Distance Learning for 14 days.</p> <p>Also, if you have been tested before travelling/ on arrival, no further testing is required.</p>
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Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

	<p>We will continue to follow the KHDA protocols and if any of this changes we would make the necessary adaptations to meet the requirements.</p>
<p><u>Entry and Exit Procedures</u></p> <p>It is mentioned that drop-off will be between a 20 minute period based on your house color. Are we supposed to drop them off outside the class as before and are the classes going to be open? We don't want to be in a position where parents and kids congregate outside the class waiting for the room to open.</p> <p>If we enter through the gate of our youngest child and drop them off, can we walk through school to drop off our other child/ children?</p> <p>What are the end of the day timings on a Thursday?</p>	<p>Class Teachers will be ready to receive children as per the specified timings.</p> <p>Drop your youngest child first then use external routes to do additional drop-offs. Staff will be positioned all around school to offer directions.</p> <p>FS1:</p> <p>All children will be collected over a 30 minute period (12:30 - 1.00pm), subject to review: Camels (red) and Falcons (blue) - Children should be collected between 12:30 and 12:45pm. Gazelles (yellow) and Leopards (green) - Children should be collected between 12:45 and 1:00pm.</p> <p>FS2 - Y6:</p> <p>All children will be collected over a 45 minute period (1:00 - 1.45pm), subject to review: Camels (red) and Falcons (blue) - Children should be collected between 1:00 and 1:20pm. Gazelles (yellow) and Leopards (green) - Children should be collected between 1:25 and 1:45pm.</p>

Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

<p><u>Online Access to Learning</u></p> <p>If we opt for keeping our child home initially for 2 weeks (online for the first 2 weeks), will they rejoin the same class when they come in full time?</p> <p>Can parents switch between online learning and face-to-face?</p> <p>If a family chooses online learning initially, can that be changed later in the term?</p> <p>Will online learning be available for those who are not feeling well and/ or expected to quarantine during the term/ school year?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Currently, the official KHDA guidance states that children must fully opt in or out, there is no option for split days in and out of school. We need to keep the group as stable as possible.</p> <p>Yes, this can be reviewed</p> <p>Yes to those who are quarantining. If a child has opted to return fully but one day does not feel well, the expectation is that they will rest and get themselves well again. They will not access online learning.</p>
<p><u>Resources</u></p> <p>Which tablet is recommended and what apps need to be installed on it? Will it need to be connected to the internet or offline?</p> <p>Will the children opting for online classes be issued with a set of their own resources, e.g. notebooks and stationery?</p> <p>Does my child need to bring their own device?</p> <p>School bags - it mentions that only 1 JPS bag will be allowed. Are we only allowed to use the JPS logo bags from Threads or can we continue using school bags of choice if already available at home?</p>	<p>We do not want you to go out and purposely buy a device therefore please go with what your child is familiar with to support continued learning. It will need to be internet/ wifi ready and able to support the Seesaw application.</p> <p>Yes, individual resource packs will be made up for every child. For those opting for learning online, the packs can be collected from Reception.</p> <p>Children in Year 3 to Year 6 should bring their own device, with children in Year 1 and Year 2 encouraged to do so for continuity of learning between home and school. If your child does not have access to their own device, we are able to support them with school resources. We recommend that children bring in their own set of headphones.</p> <p>As per the school uniform policy, the recommended school bag for JPS is with the school logo on from Threads.</p>

Return to JPS - FAQs – August 2020

<p><u>The School Day</u></p> <p>As drop-off and pick-up timings are staggered according to the house-colour group children are in, what will the children be doing during this time?</p> <p>How will specialist lessons, such as Arabic A and B, be taught in the same room?</p> <p>Will the children have physical activity breaks during the day?</p> <p>Will the stable groups of 10 remain in the same classroom?</p> <p>Will there be disposable water bottles and extra masks available in case a child loses theirs and doesn't happen to have a spare?</p>	<p>This time will be used for learning, e.g. challenge boards, reviewing work etc.</p> <p>If your child is in the first drop-off group, the work will be completed in the morning and in the afternoon for those in the second pick-up group.</p> <p>This is the 'blended' aspect of the provision. Any previous requirement for mixing children will be when we now teach online (blended).</p> <p>In the case of Arabic A and B, all children will remain in the classroom and their lessons will be streamed live. There will be an Arabic Teacher within the room supporting all learners.</p> <p>Teachers will encourage children to move regularly within their space. A PE teacher will be assigned to each year group and will provide additional movement opportunities throughout the day. The wellbeing of the children is a priority and this includes physical wellbeing. As soon as the weather cools, we will utilise outdoor space.</p> <p>Yes, the two stable groups of ten will be within a classroom and a perspex barrier will be used to safely divide the groups. There will be a Teacher and TA in each class and they will work with both groups.</p> <p>Yes</p>
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