

EtonHouse International Education Group

Post Covid-19 Reopening Guidelines EtonHouse Schools Bahrain

RISK ASSESSMENT

Every setting should carry out a risk assessment before opening. The risk assessment should directly address risks associated with COVID19. Sensible measures should be put in place to control those risks for children and staff. All employers have a duty to consult employees on health and safety, and they are best places to understand the risks in individual settings.

It would be advisable that all Nursery/Pre School staff undergo a COVID swab test before returning to school. For children, preschools and nurseries, have close contact with staff and other children. To reduce the risk of transmission when services resume, testing should be a priority in the childcare sector. This is to ensure the safeguarding, the well-being of children and staff and to reassure families.

HEALTH CHECKS AND TEMPERATURE SCREENING

Nurseries, Pre Schools should before entry into the school provide a Health and Temperature Check of all staff and children. Nurseries and Pre Schools should not admit staff or children who are unwell or showing flu like symptoms. Nurseries and Pre School should regularly check temperatures throughout the day, upon arrival and at the end of the day.

VISITORS

Nurseries and Pre Schools should restrict casual visitors, to minimise the risk of community transmission. Only visitors needed to support the running of the schools and need to perform necessary functions will be allowed to enter. All visitors will have their temperature checked upon entry and must wear a mask and gloves. If a visitor has been travelling overseas in the last 14 days, they will not be allowed to enter. Nurseries and Pre Schools should check their visitor log is maintained and to use Safe Entry to log the check in and check out for all visitors.

SAFE DISTANCING GUIDELINES FOR NURSERIES AND PRESCHOOLS

Parents and children should exercise physical distancing at common areas during drop-off and pick up.

ENTRY INTO SCHOOL AND DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

Children to proceed directly to classrooms when they arrive at Nursery/Pre School and not congregate outside the Nursery/Pre School premises, where reasonably practicable to do so.

Parents/Carers do not enter the classrooms.

Do not combine classes during drop off and pick up.

WAITING AREAS

- Demarcate queues at health check area and advise parents/ carer to stand at least 1M apart from one another, while waiting outside school, to drop off or pick up their child/children.

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- Open up or provide larger spaces for parents to wait for their children, where is reasonably practicable to do so.
- Staff and children from different classrooms to use separate entrance and exit areas.

WAITING TIME

Parents who are at the Nursery/Pre School to pick up or drop off their child should arrive just before dismissal time, to minimise waiting time, and not to congregate outside the premises for prolonged periods.

SAFE DISTANCING DURING NURSERY/ PRE SCHOOL HOURS

Nursery and Preschools should segregate the bays/ floors in their settings to try and limit the movement of children and staff within their own areas when able to do so.

Keep classes separate from other classes. Consider soft barriers or markers to help with demarcation. Ensure that children do not interact with other children from different classes, walkways, corridors, halls, or common spaces where reasonably practicable to do so.

Staff should not be cross deployed across different classrooms. When deploying relief staff, schools must ensure that relief staff do not teach at other schools.

Non-teaching staff cleaners, administrative staff to refrain from interacting with children, where reasonably practicable to do so. Example, cleaners to clean classrooms when no children are present.

GENERAL

Split a larger class into smaller groups for programmes and activities, where reasonably practicable to do so. Children and staff to remain in their groups and not switch between groups.

Avoid programmes and activities that involve close physical contact among children and staff.

Staff should avoid close physical contact with children e.g. hugs

Space out seating arrangements and arrange designated seat for each child.

Arrange for children to sit 2m apart using tape markers, and to stand 1m apart when lining up for the toilet, collection of snack boxes etc.

Each group size should be no more than ten children including children and teachers.

MEALS

Children and staff should have their meals in their respective classrooms.

Tables and chairs to be cleaned before commencement of snack and after snack. The food handler should refrain from interacting with children.

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OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

It is important that children can spend as much time as possible outdoors in a contained area of play, in their groups, ensuring that all equipment is sanitized before and after activities. Scientific research and evidence have shown it is critical for children to stay active, maintain a routine or set schedule and to try and get outside as much as possible. Getting outdoors has both physical and mental health benefits, including physical activity levels, boosting mood, preventing anxiety, and contributing to a healthy immune system. Children need sun exposure to make vitamin D it is necessary for their growth and development and is needed for a healthy immune system.

EQUIPMENT

Minimise cross sharing of equipment, materials, toys in classrooms.
Assign equipment individually, if reasonably practicable to do so.
Always wipe down and sanitize equipment after use.

STAFFING

All staff to follow school policy on washing hands regularly and wearing of facemasks.
Social interaction between staff during meals times must be avoided.
Staff should not congregate in common areas.
Offer online or conferencing training for all staff.
All staff to implement and follow all COVID risk assessments, checklists, and Health and Safety Policy.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB ACTIVITIES

After School activities may be held providing the activity is within the children attending the school, no external children. The activity can be supervised by the school's staff only no external provider and must follow the COVID Health and Safety guidelines.

Key Action List

Identify likely numbers of students returning and agree staffing resources and approach and liaise with the Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education on plans.

Plan content and timing of communications to parents and students, (including attendance expectations and other specific things that parents should do to help prepare returning students, for example, arrangements for drop off and collection).

Plan to resume taking attendance registers and continuing to complete the online educational setting status form to provide daily updates on how many children and staff are in school.

Plan how vulnerable children will be accommodated alongside returning year groups and encourage attendance unless they are ill.

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Agree what safeguarding provision is needed in school to support returning children and consider any necessary changes and referrals as more children return to school.

Update behaviour policies to reflect the new rules and routines necessary to reduce the risk in your setting and agree how to communicate this to school staff, students and parents and review uniform expectations.

Work with your catering suppliers to ensure all Health and Safety procedures are been applied.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND HYGIENE

Decide the physical and organisational structures needed to limit the risks and limit movement around the building, classroom layouts, entry and exit points, staggered starts and snack times, class sizes, and communal staff areas. Agree how safety measures and messages will be implemented and displayed around the school.

Decide on an enhanced cleaning schedule and how it will be implemented in your school, how often, when, and any additional cleaning, and sufficient cleaning supplies.

Decide on the approach to enhance hygiene, toilet use, hand washing, books, toys, equipment.

Plan the school response should someone fall ill on site with relevant government guidance.

Make arrangements for the very small number of cases where personal protective equipment PPE supplies will be needed. Staff should wear PPE when taking care of small children's toilet needs, nappy changing etc. If a child becomes ill, ensure a safe place where they can stay until the parent comes to collect them.

All Nurseries and Pre Schools should encourage staff and children to observe good personal hygiene practices and ensure the settings, equipment, materials. And toys are kept sanitized and cleaned daily. A risk assessment and cleaning record should be maintained daily.

LEARNING

Agree what learning is appropriate, identify curriculum priorities, agree revised expectations and required adjustments in practical lessons and any approaches to catch up support.