



FAQ: CONFRONTING THE COVID-19 VIRUS

Q1. Do I need to inform my child's school if my workplace has a confirmed case?

There is no need to inform the centre if your workplace has a confirmed case unless it is you or someone in your immediate household who is a confirmed case. If you or a member of your household have been issued a self-quarantine order and your child is in kindergarten, keep the centre informed. Please continue to adopt good personal hygiene practices and seek medical assistance immediately if you or your child are not feeling well.

Q2. I noticed some students and staff wearing masks in school, including those who display flu-like symptoms. If they are unwell, why are they not sent home? What are the guidelines for mask usage at Kindie World? Can my child wear a mask as an added precautionary measure in class?

Medical experts have said that there is no need to wear a mask if you are well. If you are unwell, you should see a doctor immediately and rest at home if you have been given a medical certificate. Kindie World has implemented precautionary measures to safeguard the well-being of our students. Temperature-taking is conducted daily. If a child's temperature is 37.5°C or higher or if a child displays flu-like symptoms (cough, runny nose, shortness of breath), the school will contact the parents to ask that he/she be taken to see a doctor. They should also rest at home until they have recovered.

There is generally no need to wear a mask as an added precautionary measure. We do not encourage this at our centre, especially as the child needs to take special precautions when putting on or changing the mask to avoid accidentally touching their face. However, we understand some feel strongly about using a mask so we accept the right to wear one at the centre.

Q3. Why is my child sent home when he does not seem to have a fever? How are kindergartens assessing if a child is unwell?

Kindie World conducts a daily temperature-taking practice. If a child's temperature is 37.5°C or higher, the school will contact the parents to ask that their child be taken to see a doctor. We will also monitor for other flu-like symptoms such as coughing and runny nose and will suggest to the parent to see a doctor.

There are also times when a child may inform his teacher that he is unwell, even though he may not be running a fever or showing symptoms. In these cases, we hope students and parents can all play their part to help protect all of us in the Kindie World community by seeing a doctor first before coming to school. Students should return to school only when they have fully recovered.

Q4. The World Health Organisation has declared a public health emergency of international concern over the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Should we review the precautionary measures that are in place for kindergartens?

Kindie World reviews public measures and closely monitors the situation. We will take the necessary precautionary measures as the situation evolves. But we all can and should continue to do our part to protect ourselves by adopting good hygiene habits and practicing social responsibility by seeking medical attention if we are unwell.

Q5. Can schools be one of the safer place for students?

Staff and students are already on extra alert. We are calling on all our teachers and staff to help keep the school safe. Hygiene is a major determinant of the risk of transmission, so personal and group hygiene standards have been raised. There is constant supervision -- especially for younger students -- and reminders for all students to wash their hands regularly and avoid touching their faces. As a group, students will clean up after use. For activities, we have scaled down mass activities to minimize unnecessary inter-mingling of students.

Q6. Can the center provide hand sanitizers in all classrooms?

Personal hygiene is indeed important. But hand sanitizers are not necessary if we wash our hands thoroughly and regularly with soap. Some individuals may also be sensitive to sanitizers. Toilets in our schools are well stocked with liquid soap. We will also be stepping up the cleaning of toilets, sinks and dining areas to ensure that they are clean.

In addition, the centre is providing all classrooms and common areas with Kangen pH 2.5 Acidic Water as a chemical-free hand and surface sanitizer.

Q7. Can we be assured that there will be no infection in school?

We have posed ourselves this difficult question, which deserves an honest answer. We cannot ensure that there will not be an infection in our center. If there is a community-wide outbreak, chances are some students may be infected. We will do everything we can to make the school one of the safer environments in that scenario.

Q8. Even if the center is safe, how about the journey to and from Kindie World?

We will advise our transportation operators to maintain a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene. But as commuters, we should also play our part. Remind your child to wash his or her hands with soap before the journey and to not to touch their face unnecessarily. When they are in school, they will be reminded to wash their hands with soap throughout the school day.

Q9. I have heard of cases where students travelled to China and did not declare their recent travel activities to their school. How do we ensure that everyone does the responsible thing?

If you come across a case where the person did not declare their recent trip to China, please contact Kindie World. We had received earlier feedback of such cases, but upon further investigation, we found that the individuals had returned from China in December 2019. This is well past the 14-day incubation period so the self-quarantine period no longer applied.

Q10. How will the centre support students who are placed on self-quarantine?

For any student placed on self-quarantine (14 days), their teachers will call them regularly to check on their physical and emotional well-being, as well as support them with their school work. When the student returns to school, we will continue to look out for them to ensure that they are able to adjust to the current school routine. Our counsellors will follow up with students who may require further support.

Supporting students in their lessons may involve a variety of methods. The school will plan and implement a home-based online learning programme that best suits the needs of students. For example, the school may assign specific assignments from exercise books. Updates will be issued to students and parents accordingly.

Q11. I understand that kindergarten students who live in close contact with Patients Under Investigation (PUI) also need to observe a Self-Quarantine. Why is this necessary?

The Self-Quarantine Order (SQO) is issued to healthy persons who have recently returned from specified high-risk countries, and for those in close contact with a confirmed case. There may be young children living in the same household, and being young, they may not be aware of the precautions they need to take to protect themselves when staying with someone on SQO. The school has decided to take the step of issuing SQO to these young children as an additional precautionary measure. This will give their fellow students and parents added assurance.

Q12. Are vendors/suppliers, cleaners, security team, cafe staff, freelance coaches also covered under the self-quarantine measure?

Yes. The self-quarantine provisions cover teaching staff, non-teaching staff, such as administrators, and other non-school staff, including vendors/suppliers, cleaners, security guards and part-time coaches.

Q13. What if students or staff do not declare their travel history?

We urge everyone to consider the well-being of others at the centre and report to us of anyone from the Kindie World -- whether a student, parent, teacher or staff -- who has recently travelled abroad. All of us play a part in ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone in the community. We should act responsibly, declare our travel history and see a doctor if unwell. Ultimately, we can only overcome this virus with the cooperation and public responsibility of everyone.

Q14. Whom can I contact to find out more about Covid-19?

For information on Covid-19, you may call the National Crisis Preparedness & Response Centre (CPRC) Infoline 03-8881 0200/03-8881 0600/03-8881 0700 or email cprc@moh.gov.my

Q15. What are the precautions I should take regarding Covid-19?

In line with global health advisories, we advise you to take the following precautions during this period:

- * Avoid crowded places and close contact with people who are unwell
- * Practice good hygiene and wash your hands often especially before handling food or after respiratory secretions like coughing or sneezing
- * Wear a mask if you have any symptoms such as coughing or sneezing
- * Avoid contact where live animals are sold, and do not consume raw or under-cooked meat
- * Seek medical attention immediately if you are feeling unwell

Q16. Why is Kinde World limiting parents from entering the school premises? Why are parents only being allowed to drop-off and pick-up their children?

We recognize that some of the precautionary measures we are putting in place may result in some inconvenience. However, they are implemented to protect everyone at Kinde World. We therefore seek your kind understanding and assistance.

Parents/guardians are advised to not remain at the school premises during center hours. Parents are advised to leave the school premise after drop off and pick of their child. This will help the center control any possible transmission of the virus around the school.

Daily temperature checks (= 37.5°C) will be conducted to all students, teachers, staff, parents/guardians and visitors before entering the school premises. The school management reserves the right to prohibit any student, teacher, staff, parent/guardian or visitor from entering the school premise when the temperature reading is at or above 37.5°C.

Resources:

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/faqs-covid-19-infection#q24>

<https://educationmalaysia.gov.my/coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.sg/article/covid-19-resources#posters>

<https://www.doctoroncall.com.my/coronavirus>