

Approaches to August

Nishimachi International School

Guiding Principles



Guiding Principle 1

The health and safety of our students, staff, and immediate community is our number one priority.

Guiding Principle 2

Decisions will be based on our founding philosophy, school mission and the Nishimachi Learner Expectations.

Guiding Principle 3

Decisions will be made considering the space and schedule constraints of our small campus.

Our Commitment

We will commit to doing our part to contain and minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 in our community.

We will ensure our decisions are guided by a balance of local and global resources and guidelines.

We will prioritize

- Varied teaching techniques
- Collaborative/Social aspects
- Differentiation according to students' needs
- Active learning approach
- Support for student wellbeing

RISK LEVELS

We will determine which type of learning model to use based on the risk levels outlined below.



LOW

- Government recommends reopening
- MEXT, Minato-ku, CDC, WHO, or other trusted sources say risk is low
- Very low medical uncertainty (can get tested easily, antibody tests available, reliable treatment)
- Infection rates locally continue to decline and are traceable
- Nishimachi is confident the risk level is low enough to manage a fully open campus with health precautions in place
- Most JCIS and local schools open their campuses fully



MEDIUM



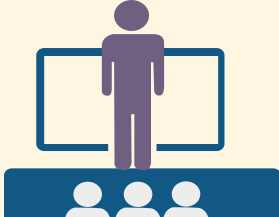
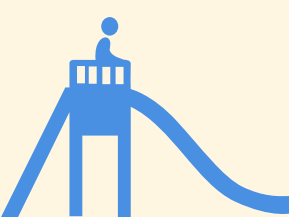

- Unclear or ambiguous government guidance
- MEXT, Minato-ku, CDC, WHO, or other trusted sources say there is some risk
- Degree of medical uncertainty present
- Infection rates locally are contained and contact tracing is present
- Nishimachi feels we can minimize risk through various precautionary measures (physical distancing, hand washing, mask wearing, and lower density of students on campus)
- JCIS and local schools are opening with precautions



HIGH

- State of Emergency in Japan/Tokyo or Tokyo Public schools close
- MEXT, Minato-ku, CDC, WHO, or other trusted sources say risk is high
- High degree of medical uncertainty (hospitals are overwhelmed)
- Increased COVID-19 cases in Tokyo or cases remain at concerning levels
- Known infections within the Nishimachi community
- We feel we cannot mitigate risk or ensure the safety of our community
- Campus closure of JCIS and local schools

LEARNING IN PRACTICE

	IN PERSON LEARNING MODEL	HYBRID LEARNING MODEL	REMOTE LEARNING MODEL
 Access to Campus	Campus is open to all students.	Campus is open, but not all students can be on campus simultaneously.	Campus is closed, students are learning from home.
 Scheduling	Regular ES and MS schedules.	ES and MS schedules similar to in-person learning with half our students at home. All K- G2 students on campus with modifications	Resume final version of Remote Learning schedules from SY2019-20 [i.e. ES: AM=core classes + PM=specials; MS: 4 periods/day]
 Learning Environment	Face-to-face with physically distanced classrooms	Students at school receive face-to-face instruction while students at home experience live-streamed instruction for core classes.	Virtual classes through Zoom, Google Classroom, Google Chat and Seesaw.
 Recreation/Recess Time	Students use various school spaces for recess as in the regular schedule.	Students on campus enjoy various spaces for recess. Students at home create their own experiences for recess.	Students create their own experiences for recess.
 Specialist Classes Art, Drama, Music, PE	Students participate in specialist classes as in the regular schedule.	Students on campus participate in specialist classes in person. Students at home refer to choice boards.	Students participate in modified forms of art, drama, music & PE that differ from the regular curriculum.

LEARNING IN PRACTICE

IN PERSON LEARNING MODEL

HYBRID LEARNING MODEL

REMOTE LEARNING MODEL

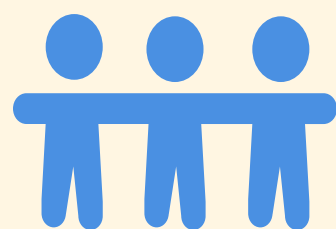


Teaching Approaches

Teachers use a variety of interactive teaching techniques, including whole group, small group and individual instruction.

Teachers use a variety of teaching techniques with students, including interactive components but also choice boards.

Teachers maintain some interactive teaching with check-ins and small groups, but also use one-way methods such as videos and educational platforms.

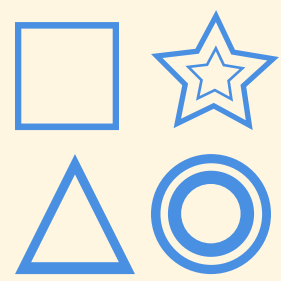


Collaborative/Social

Students work independently, in pairs and small groups with preventive measures in place.

Students work in pairs or small groups across classroom and virtual environments.

Students work in pairs or small groups via Breakout Rooms and shared documents.



Differentiation
According to
Students' Needs

Students receive support for individual needs in and out of the classroom.

All students' needs are catered for through supports such as repeated instructions, additional small groups and individualized attention.

Students receive support both in the virtual and physical classroom environments.

Students who are physically in the classroom have access to supports such as repeated instructions, additional small groups and individualized attention.

Students receive support in individual and small groups outside of the student's class schedule.

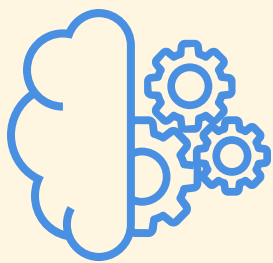
Classroom teachers ensure tasks and supports meet a variety of student needs, including the use of breakout rooms, additional links/resources and peer supports.

LEARNING IN PRACTICE

IN PERSON LEARNING MODEL

HYBRID LEARNING MODEL

REMOTE LEARNING MODEL



Active Learning

Active learning occurs through: participation, student interaction, critical thinking, use of materials and manipulatives, and students’ innate curiosities.

Active learning may be limited by available materials and dual contexts for collaboration.

Active learning will involve a combination of active participation in discussions, online collaboration, and independent task completion.



Student Wellbeing

Teachers work with students both in and out of the classroom in whole group formats (e.g. daily homeroom and advisory time), as well as addressing individual needs.

Teachers facilitate student wellbeing across in-person and virtual settings. Individual student issues are addressed as needed.

Student wellbeing is monitored via class check-ins, monitoring of student work and individual outreach.

RISK LEVELS FOR SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

The US Olympic/Paralympic Committee has proposed a risk scale for COVID-19 transmission. Nishimachi will adapt this scale to categorize its current co-curricular offerings from low risk to high risk. These ratings do not mean all sports listed will automatically be cancelled; rather, we are looking closely at the risks involved in each sport or activity to assess whether those risks can be mitigated.



LOW

Activities that can be done with physical distancing or individually with no sharing of equipment or the ability to clean the equipment between use by student

All sports and activities will be offered.



MEDIUM

Activities that can be done outdoors and/or with some physical distancing or protective equipment

Some sports and activities will be offered



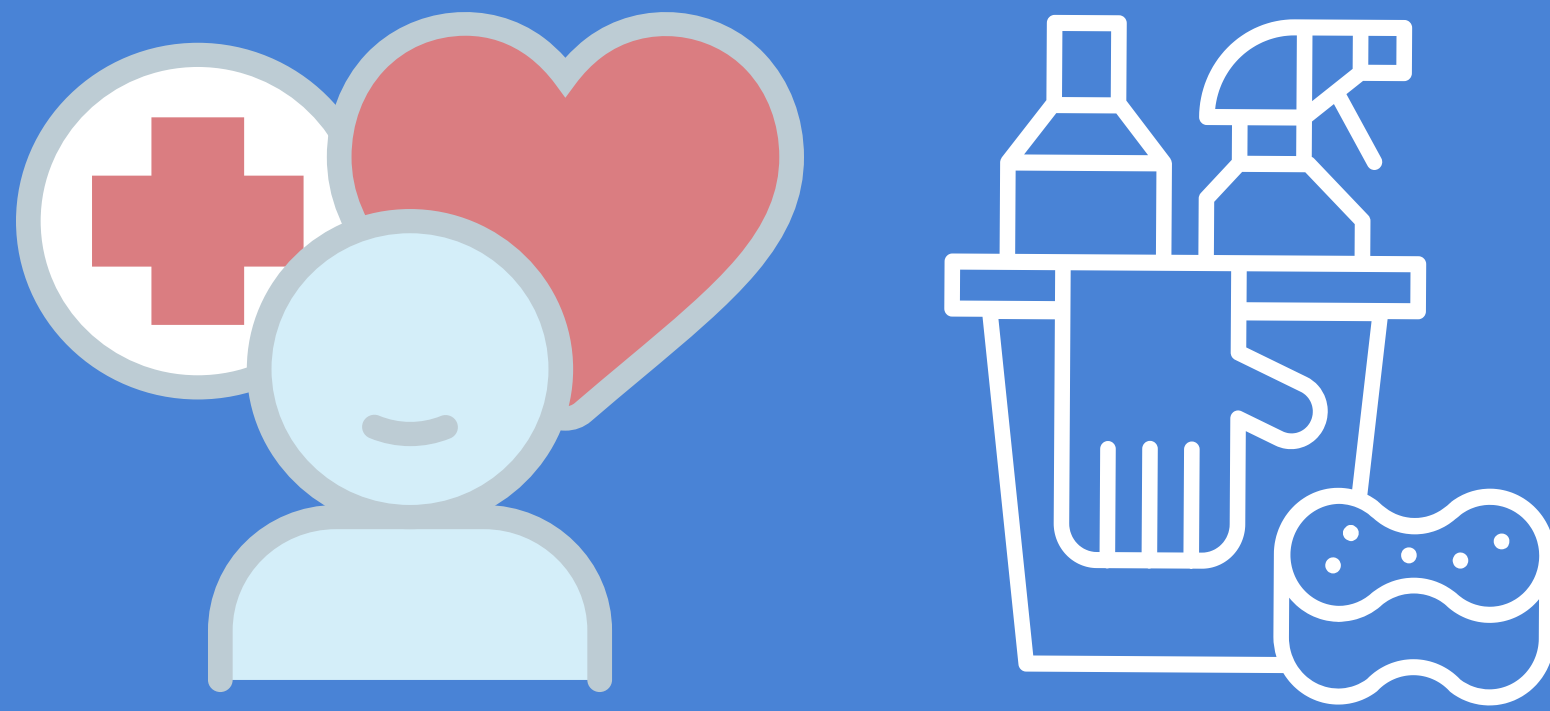
HIGH

Activities that involve close contact and a high probability that respiratory particles are spread among participants

No in-person sports activities will be offered.



Health & Cleaning Protocols



KEY PRACTICES

In response to the pandemic, we have expanded our Health and Cleaning Protocols based on our Guiding Principles. We ask that all families adhere to these protocols to ensure a safe school year.

Guiding Principle 1

The health and safety of our students, staff, and immediate community is our number one priority.

WE ASK PARENTS TO:

- Monitor your child/children's health daily
- Keep your child home when he/she feels unwell
- Keep the child home when he/she has cold/flu symptoms including but not limited to: cough, congestion, sore throat, headache, bodyache, severe fatigue, and fever.
- If your child has had a fever, he/she has to be fever-free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school (subject to change).

FAMILY MEMBERS:

- If any family member suspects a possible case of COVID-19 notify the school immediately and students must stay home until the family has consulted with the school.
- If a family member travels outside of Japan, we ask you to notify the school. If the family member who has traveled can self-quarantine upon return and have no contact with the student, the student may come to campus.

CLEANING

The priority is to ensure our campus is virus free at all times and we will minimize the risk by maintaining a stringent cleaning schedule. There will be:

- Frequent cleaning of high-touched surfaces throughout the day
- More extensive cleaning between A and B rotations
- Disinfection before and after on-campus after/school activities in a few specific rooms
- Extensive disinfection over the weekend

HEALTH PROTOCOLS



AT HOME

- All students must have their temperature taken at home
- Record temperature on preprinted Temperature Slips with their name, temperature and acknowledging that no one at home is displaying COVID symptoms.
- Bring this slip to school - students will not be admitted without the slip

MORNING ARRIVAL

ALL STUDENTS AT ALL LOCATIONS

- STEP 1 - Arrive at designated gate & queue on marked lines
- STEP 2 - Submit Temperature Slips
- STEP 3 - Thermographic camera/no contact thermometer temperature check
- STEP 4 - Temperature below 37.5 go to class
- Temperature over 37.5 recheck with contact thermometer
- STEP 5 - Temperature over 37.5 w/contact thermometer student sent home



ARRIVAL GATES



Kindergarten

Designated Class

**ES Art
Room Door**



Grade 1-4

**Main
Gate**



Kindergarten

Designated Classes

**Kinder
Building**



Grade 5-9

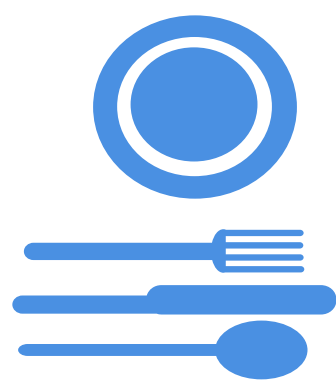
**Yellow
Gate**



DURING SCHOOL

- All students and staff must wear masks at all times while on campus
- Masks can be removed to eat snack and lunch
- All students must bring two masks daily and bag to place them in
- Use alcohol spray every time when entering and exiting classrooms

HEALTH & CLEANING PROTOCOLS AT SCHOOL



Eating & Drinking

SNACK TIME

Wash/Spray--> Snack-->
Sit outside to eat

LUNCH TIME

Kiwi Kitchen delivery
person uses normal temp
protocol daily upon
entering

Teachers wear gloves &
distribute Kiwi Kitchen
meals

Wash hands & sanitize
area before eating

Remove mask & put in
designated bag

No talking

No sharing food

Students face away from
each other while eating

BYOWB

Bring Your Own Water Bottle
bubblers/water
fountains will be turned off

No microwaves in Middle
School



Cleaning

CLEANING COMPANY

Rooms are cleaned
thoroughly every day

Focus on frequently visited
locations and high-touch
surfaces

Covid-19 specific cleaning
products used

Deep cleaning between A &
B groups & on Weekends

TEACHERS

K & G1 rooms are cleaned
between groups

K & G1 recess spaces on
campus are cleaned
between groups

Japanese
and specials classes are
cleaned between groups

STUDENTS

Sanitize hands every time
enter & exit a room

Individual pencil pouches
and zip plastic bags for
belongings (refer to grade
level supply lists)



Bathrooms

Bathrooms are cleaned
every 2-4 hours

Wash hands afterwards
thoroughly with soap

Wear mask at all times
while using the bathroom

Bathroom passes required
to use the bathroom

Passes are hung on door
when in use

If bathroom is full, student
returns to class, and tries
again in a few minutes

Students sanitize passes
when they return to class

Recess bathroom use:
Student must get bathroom
pass from recess teacher

HEALTH PROTOCOLS AT SCHOOL



Transitions

YELLOW & BLUE BUILDING

All students & staff must
always go
UP Blue Stairs
DOWN Yellow stairs

RED BUILDING

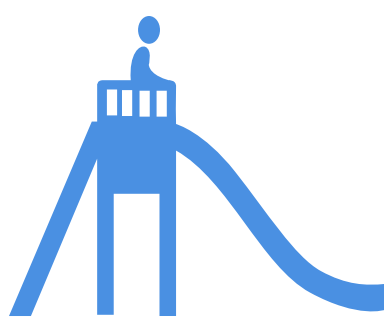
Clearly marked UP and
DOWN sides of stairwell
& discourage use of hand
railings

GREEN BUILDING

Staggered release of
students at end of period to
allow for one way traffic
flow only.

KINDER BUILDING

Designated entrance and
exit traffic flow for each
class



ES Recess

Sanitize hands when exiting
classroom

Masks

K-2 remove mask & put in
envelope if active outdoors
G3-5 choose for yourself

Recess spaces are divided
into sub-areas wherever
possible

Recess teacher will
organize no contact
activities

Sanitize equipment after
use

Sanitize or wash hands on
re-entry to classroom



MS Recess

Sanitize hands when exiting
classroom

Masks to remain on unless
running outdoors

Sit to eat snack at recess
(remove mask and place in
bag/envelope/pocket)

Teacher on duty will
monitor to ensure no
contact activities and safe
use of equipment

Sanitize or wash hands on
re-entry to classroom

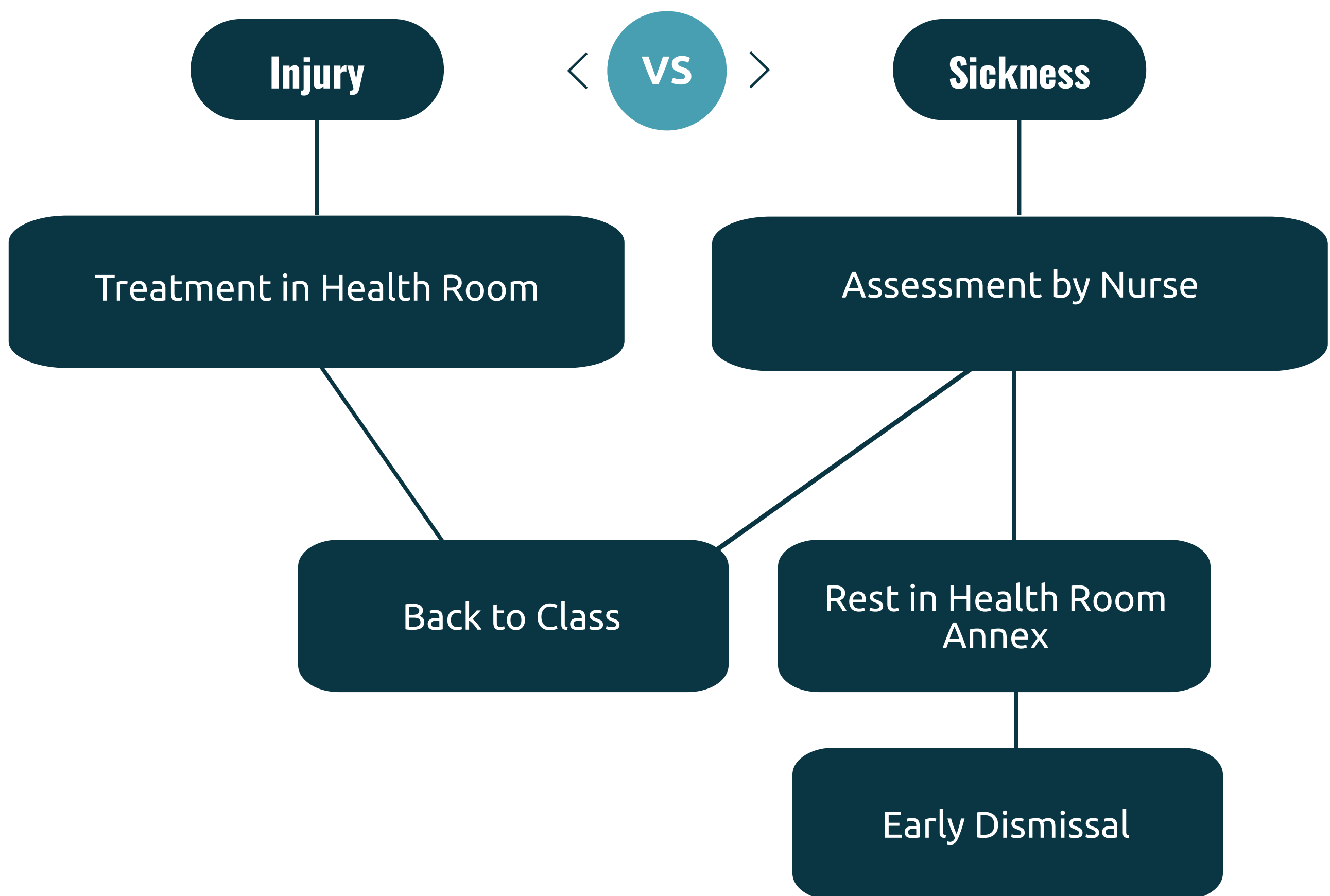
HEALTH ROOM PROTOCOLS



The Health Room has been renovated to accommodate the needs of sick students while following COVID-19 safety guidelines. The new “Health Room Annex,” located next to the Health Room, is a designated care space for students who feel unwell while on campus.

Please be sure to speak to your child regularly, about appropriate reasons to visit the Health Room to help us minimize overcrowding.

When a student gets injured or feels sick, the School Nurse will be called prior to any student visiting Health Room to ensure the number of students are limited to ensure a safe social distance.



1. At the Health Room door, nurse/adult will:

- Wear mask and gloves
- Ask for symptoms (cough, headache, bodyache, sore throat etc.)
- Check temperature (using non-contact thermometer)

2. If the student needs to rest in the Health Room Annex, the nurse/adult will:

- Call the parent to inform them of symptoms and early dismissal if deemed necessary. The student will rest in the annex room until pick-up. If the student is authorized to go home alone, the student can be sent home.
- If the child has a fever, inform parent that the child has to be fever-free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school (subject to change).

3. After the child leaves, discard disposable sheet and the area is wiped down with disinfectant solution while maintaining good ventilation.

HEALTH ROOM ANNEX Q&A



What is the Health Room Annex/The Annex Room?

- It is a room where students who aren't feeling well can rest.
- It can be converted into an isolation room if necessary.



What's the Set-Up of the Health Room Annex?

- The Health Room Annex is located on the right side of the Health Room.
- There will be three cots with disposable sheets. The cots are distanced apart with dividers in between.
- There is a door connecting the Annex and the Health Room. This should remain closed, but the adult can observe the student through the window on the door, and the student can use the phone, or get the adult's attention by knocking if necessary.
- The student can also be monitored by a baby monitor for closer observation if necessary.
- Windows facing outside must remain open for ventilation.
- The door must remain closed and the air purifier must be turned on when a student is in the room.



What else is in the Health Room Annex?

- Instruction sheet for student
- Hand sanitizer
- Tissue box
- Sick bucket
- Thermometer
- Books



Can more than one student be placed in the Health Room Annex?

Yes. We can place up to three students in the Health Room Annex. They will be at least 2 meters apart with screens in between. They will be discouraged from talking to each other while resting.



Which bathroom should students resting in the Health Room Annex use?

Students resting in the Health Room Annex will use a designated bathroom located on the first floor of the Green Building labeled "Bathroom for Health Room Annex," which will be cleaned routinely. Students will sanitize their hands before leaving the Health Room Annex and wash hands with soap and water before returning.