



Keeping ICS Safe

Reopening Plan

2021 | Version 3

www.ics.edu.sg



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Introduction

Welcome back to a new semester at International Community School (Singapore)! We are excited to begin anew in 2021 with our #uKNIGHTed community.

We recognize that every member of the school has a significant role in keeping our community safe. In light of this, we hope to continue fostering a culture of mutual responsibility and accountability while creating a vibrant academic setting for the students in our care. Together, we must adopt a social understanding to achieve our common goal: to ensure a safe and secure academic year for every member of the community.

Should you have any questions regarding the information in this booklet, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the ICS leadership team.

With blessings,
ICS Leadership Team



Our Commitment To You

Mission

Educating minds
and transforming
lives to impact the
world for the glory
of God

Core Values

Biblical Worldview
Caring Community
Academic Excellence
Personal Excellence

Vision

Every Student,
Every Family,
Every Day
for Christ

Our priority continues to be the health and safety of each member of our community. As we consult with experts and other international school leadership—both in Singapore and across the globe—to help guide our decisions, we commit to maintaining our caring community in the midst of change and exceptional circumstances.



Supporting Your Children

Schedules and Academics

Government restrictions regarding social distancing measures will impact student schedules, classes, and extracurricular activities. All middle and high school students will go directly to their first block classroom once they arrive on campus. Transitions between classes will be staggered, and most of the campus staircases will be designated as either ascending or descending to minimize cross-student contact. In all music classes, there will be no singing or playing of wind or brass instruments.

Elementary Art, Music, and Inquiry and Digital Design classes will meet in their designated classrooms with the exception of K4 and K5, which still meet in the homeroom classes. Next semester certain grade levels will have recess together: K4/K5, Grade 1 (on their own), Grades 2/3, and Grades 4/5.



Classroom Set-up

The classrooms have been set up to ensure that there is appropriate spacing between tables. Students have assigned seats and assigned groups.

Teachers have the discretion to move students around in the classroom based on learning groups.



Wearing a Mask

Students are required to wear a face mask or face shield the entire time they are at school.

We are grateful to all of the parents and caregivers for showing their children how to properly wear their mask, how to safely take it off and put it back on, and how to get used to the feel of wearing a mask for long periods of time. You are encouraged to emphasize to your children the importance of washing their hands before and after taking off their masks, as well as the importance of keeping their hands away from their masks while wearing them.

If your child is aged 12 or younger and would like to wear a face shield, please inform your child's homeroom teacher so that they can provide your child with a face shield.



Social Interactions

Since school started, the students have learned how to adjust their social interaction expectations so that they can maintain a safe distance from one another. The teachers, staff, and administration are committed to ensuring that your children's social well-being are taken care of. We encourage you to continue talking with your children about the need to maintain a safe distance from other students and adults. We understand this will be difficult for everyone regardless of the age. We will continue to guide the students through new ways to socially interact and inform them on what proper social distancing looks like in a classroom.

Dr. Helen Rader [counselor@ics.edu.sg], the elementary and middle school counselor, and Mr. Eric Laug, the high school counselor [academiccounselor@ics.edu.sg], are available to meet virtually with any parent who would like guidance on how to talk with their children about COVID-19 and the anxiety they are feeling about returning to school. Please contact our counselors at their email addresses to set up an appointment.

Health and Safety

The ICS reopening plan is designed to meet all of the Singapore government's health and safety requirements. Highlights of our health and safety plan and requirements are included here for your reference.

Illness in the Household

Any student who exhibits symptoms of acute respiratory illness (such as fever, cough, runny nose, or sore throat) must stay home from school and is required to see a doctor immediately. **Students who show symptoms of acute respiratory illness will be isolated and the parents required to immediately pick up the child from school to take the child to the doctor.**

Per the Singapore government's requirements for reopening schools, if any adult member of a student's family exhibits any symptoms of acute respiratory illness (such as fever, cough, runny nose, or sore throat), the student is also required to stay home from school. These absences will be considered excused absences and will not be counted against the student's maximum number of absences per semester. To ensure that your child is not left behind in class, please contact the homeroom teacher and request for updates on what is happening in the classroom.

Should you have any questions regarding student or family illness, please contact Mrs. Jyl Neri at firstaid@ics.edu.sg.

Travel Declaration Form (Required for all NEW students)

All parents or guardians are required to complete a travel declaration form for every student and parent prior to the student starting school. This travel declaration form is required by the Singapore government for reporting purposes regarding prior and upcoming travel.

Leave of Absences, Stay-Home Notices, and Quarantine Orders

Any student living in a home with an individual who is placed on a leave of absence (LOA), stay-home notice (SHN), or quarantine order (QO) and remains in the home will be placed on a mandatory leave of absence from ICS for the entire duration of the LOA, SHN, or QO. Parents and guardians are required to immediately contact ICS should anyone in the household be placed on a LOA, SHN, or QO.

Should you have any questions regarding the travel declaration form or LOAs, SHNs, and QOs, please contact our front office at info@ics.edu.sg.

Health Screening

Student temperatures will be taken at least twice per school day: once upon entry to campus, and once at lunch. Upon entering campus, students will be assessed for any signs of acute respiratory illness.

Face Masks

All individuals on campus are required to wear a face mask at all times. If necessary, ICS will provide children in K4 and K5 with a face shield if they have difficulty wearing a mask for the entire day. Additionally, children who are 12 years of age and younger, or those with special needs, may opt to wear a face shield if they have difficulty wearing a mask for the entire day. If your child would like to use a face shield, please contact the teacher so that we can provide your child with one. We encourage all students to bring an extra pair of masks to school.



Hygiene

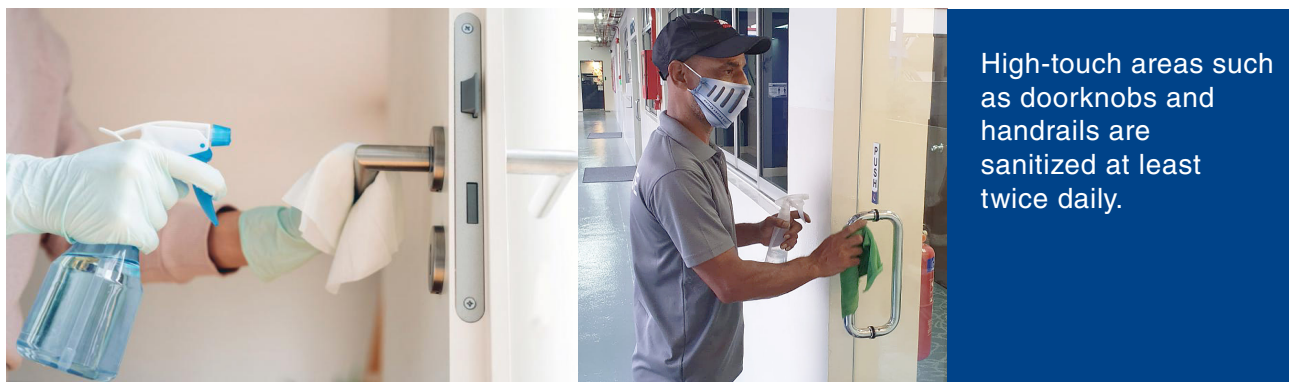
All students are required to wash their hands when entering campus, before lunch, and after lunch. As necessary, teachers will arrange for students to wash their hands at other times during the day.

Hand sanitizers will be provided in all classrooms and in select common areas on campus. Before a child boards the school bus, we will also provide hand sanitizers to the child. Additionally, drinking fountains are available for filling water bottles. Students should bring their own refillable water bottle to school each day.



Campus Cleaning

Elementary school classrooms are thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day and at other points throughout the day as necessary. In middle and high school classrooms, all desks, chairs, equipment, and supplies are sanitized at the end of each class.



SG Clean

We are proud to be certified "SG Clean" as of December 2020. This certification acknowledges our school's commitment to ensuring cleanliness of public spaces and elevating public hygiene standards at the school. From the SG Clean website:



"An important component of the SG Clean campaign is the SG Clean quality mark, a premises-based sanitation and hygiene indicator. The SG Clean quality mark requires organisations to commit to sector-specific sanitation and hygiene checklists, to safeguard public health in Singapore.

To raise hygiene standards and transform the cleanliness levels of public spaces, the SG Clean campaign has involved owners of premises adopting the SG Clean quality mark, to reflect their commitment and ownership of maintaining high standards of environmental public hygiene at their premises."

Campus Entry

Campus will open for the school day at 7:30am. At this time, the ICS campus is only open to students, faculty, and staff. Due to government restrictions, parents and helpers are not allowed on campus except in a vehicle for active student drop-off or pick-up.

All students will need to enter through the front gate. The back gate will only be opened for independent walkers to leave campus after school from 3:00 to 3:15 pm. All students are required to scan their ICS ID upon entry.

All students will have their temperature taken upon arriving at school. Anyone with a temperature above 37.5 degrees Celsius will not be allowed entry.

After washing their hands, all students are required to go directly to the following areas:

- K4/K5: Early Childhood playground
- G1: Elementary playground
- G2/3: Elementary court
- G4/5: Gym
- MS/HS: First block classroom

On rainy days, ES students from K4 to G3 will go to their homeroom class.

Pick Up

Students who ride the bus, walk, or use public transportation will be dismissed at 3:00 pm. Students who are picked up by an adult, whether by walking or vehicle, will be dismissed after the buses leave campus. We anticipate this process to start at around 3:10 pm. As with drop off, parents, helpers, and guardians are not allowed out of their vehicle or to enter campus on foot while school is in session. The back gate will be opened from 3:00 to 3:15pm for independent walkers to leave campus after school.

Drop Off

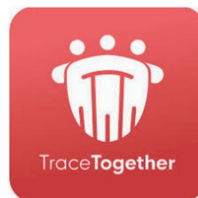
Drop off will begin at 7:30am. All car riders need to be dropped off in the designated drop-off zone. Per Singapore government guidelines, parents, helpers, and guardians are not allowed out of their vehicle or to enter campus on foot while school is in session.

TraceTogether Token

Students in 1st to 5th grade (7 years old and above) are required to have a TraceTogether token which will be scanned for Safe Entry.

When students are able to procure a TraceTogether token, they are required to have it on them at all times, ideally attached to the student's lanyard.

Middle and high school students will need to have a TraceTogether token or the TraceTogether app on their phones to sign in for Safe Entry.



Canteen

The canteen will open before school for middle and high school students to purchase snacks. Students can also purchase snacks between classes with their teacher's permission.

While in the canteen, elementary students in Grades 1-5 will have assigned seats that are spaced one meter apart. Canteen tables and chairs will be thoroughly wiped down between student use. Middle and high school students are free to sit anywhere in the canteen while still observing safe distancing measures.

Providing Counselling Support

ICS counselors commit to providing professional assistance and support to a student or small group of students through 1-on-1 counseling sessions, group counseling sessions, and age-appropriate classroom guidance as we reopen the school. We will continue to guide our students as they adapt to the new normal, and will continue to offer on-campus counseling services and support in areas such as behavioral, emotional, academic, spiritual counseling, academic advising, and college counseling.

Partnering with Parents

Our counselors further commit to being proactive and responsive as we help students, parents, teachers, and school administrators make decisions and take appropriate actions on various issues. We anticipate collaborating with families and other professionals to make referrals to appropriate community resources if or when students require long-term counseling to address mental health issues or to provide long-term support.



Looking Ahead

ICS will remain diligent in monitoring the situation and keeping up-to-date on best practices. In line with Singapore government requirements and safety regulations, the school will loosen restrictions appropriately once the safety of our students, staff, and community is assured. We hopefully anticipate resuming normal activities and will continue to keep you informed of any changes through email and updates to our COVID-19 landing page on the school website.

It is a privilege to educate and nurture each student we welcome to campus. Rest assured that the health and safety of the entire ICS community remains our priority during this time.

