



AIR QUALITY PROCEDURE

Statement

At MYIS we place our students' best interests at the heart of every decision. As our local air quality continues to gather concern, we continuously reflect on our practices to ensure the health and safety of our students and the wider community.

Research has shown that students benefit from regular outdoor breaks with experts suggesting between 60-90 minutes per day, depending on the students age. MYIS acknowledges the outdoor environment as a valued learning space and honors the PSPE programme (*swimming and outdoor games*) as a key part of our overall educational programme.

Unfortunately poor air quality does not always support the health benefits of being outside and may be deemed 'unhealthy'. As such, MYIS has developed this Air Quality Procedure which outlines steps to be taken as a result of poor air quality, which may also include canceling planned events.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) was designed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is used to determine air quality. The EPA developed a series of levels to help us better understand the impact of air pollution and determine when air pollution reaches unhealthy levels. MYIS has developed air quality guidelines that are aligned with other international schools in Bangkok based on information provided by the EPA and local agencies for pollution control.

As a school, we will be measuring the air quality index (AQI) from our own outdoor air quality measurement device. These measurements will be taken on a daily basis to obtain readings of AQI levels.

Procedure:

1. Each morning at 7:30am PLT and our facilities team will check the Air Quality Index reading using the [ISB PM2.5 reading](#) and inform staff.
2. The facilities manager is responsible for communicating to the school community the Air Quality Index (see attached) through coloured indicators located on the small playground.
3. The school will use the 1 hour average PM2.5 reading to adjust activities.
4. All staff members are responsible for periodically checking the indicators and responding accordingly to the guidelines outlined in the Air Quality protocols below.
5. Should it be advised for students to remain indoors, teaching teams are encouraged to use the additional learning spaces (*Atelier, Library, Gymnastics studio, Gyms*) if not already in use.
6. Throughout the school year T&C, J&C and P&U students will eat all meals in an indoor Early Years cafeteria.
7. Early Years Swimming units will be scheduled for the good air season. In case a swimming class is cancelled, it will be rescheduled to the gym (if available). Session 1 Swimming After School Club will continue if the PM2.5 is within the acceptable range for aerobic activity.
8. If PM2.5 measures 56 or above all swimming classes will be moved to the B2 or B1 gyms.

Please find below the MYIS PM2.5 (Air Quality) Protocol:

PM 2.5	Air Quality Protocol
1 - 9.1	Outdoor activity ok for all
9.2 - 35.4	Outdoor activity as usual. Teachers monitor students with unusual sensitivity to pollutants as identified through medical records.
35.5 - 55.4	T&C - P&U and Sensitive Individuals*: Exercise indoors or avoid strenuous** outdoor activities (veranda and <i>low intensity</i> activities outdoors is ok)
55.5 - 125.4	T&C - P&U and Sensitive Individuals: No outdoor activity. All activities should be moved indoors C&S - Excellence limit to 30 minutes outdoors at a time - Outdoor time for all classes is modified to <i>low intensity</i> activities (limit vigorous outdoor activities to a maximum of 15 minutes). - Swimming is cancelled, PE classes move to B1/B2 gym
> 125.5	- No outdoor activity for all classes, except for movement between classes and buildings. All activities should be moved indoors. - Staff who need to be outdoors for duties will be provided with an N95 mask to filter fine particulate matter.

*Sensitive students are those identified as having asthma or respiratory-related difficulties. Should a student be categorized in the sensitive group, it is the responsibility of the family to notify the school office (office@magicyears.ac.th) with supporting documents as soon as possible.

**Vigorous activities involve those activities that cause an elevated heart rate for a sustained period of time (ie. running/swimming laps, football).