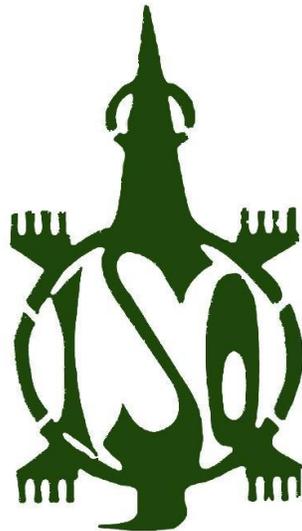

ISO 2020-2021 COVID-19 Action Plan



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Revisions of the COVID-19 operational manual will be made as new information becomes available from infectious disease experts.

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Mission and Vision

Mission

The International School of Ouagadougou cultivates diversity, respect, knowledge and character, and strives to develop global citizens who contribute towards a better, more peaceful world.

Vision

The International School of Ouagadougou provides a quality, comprehensive education that nurtures a lifelong love of learning in students who aim to reach their highest potential.

Guiding Principles for Health and Safety

The ISO Administration strongly recommends families who have travelled abroad or are entering Burkina Faso to come to Ouagadougou early enough in the case of a needed quarantine. We will focus on grade level appropriate procedures and policies, which will be reevaluated on a biweekly basis.

Our guiding principles include:

Academic excellence

Ensure highest quality of learning.

Social/emotional wellness

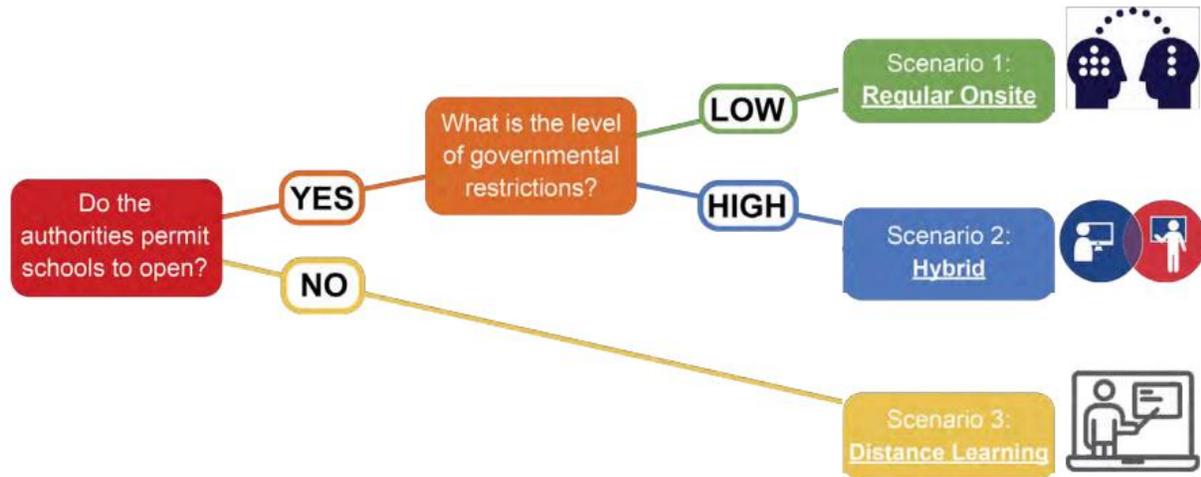
Ensure social, emotional, physical and cognitive wellbeing.

Community

Ensure our sense of community.

Possible Scenarios

As long as the pandemic remains a threat, we must prepare for continuity in case of government restrictions that may be imposed on schools. To ensure that learning continues at the highest level, ISO is ready to move with agility between Scenarios 1, 2 and 3 as necessary.



Scenario 1: Regular Onsite

We will reinforce our health and hygiene protocols to safeguard the wellbeing of all learners.

Measures taken:

- Deep cleaning of all areas with known exposure.
- Cleaning protocols to be increased in response to the conditions at reopening.
- Training of staff in all protocols.

Ongoing measures:

- Temperatures will be checked upon arrival to campus.
- Hand washing to be done throughout the day, with hand washing stations and/or gel dispensers to be positioned throughout campus.
- No entry to classrooms without washing hands or using hand sanitizer
- Snack Shack with social distancing.
- Bus transportation will require the use of hand sanitizer, temperature checks, and masks.

Only students and school employees will have access to school grounds during the academic day. Exceptions will be made for individuals with appointments that have been scheduled in advance.

Use of masks will be mandatory.

Scenario 2: Hybrid

If government restrictions require us to limit group size or interactions, and/or to maintain strict physical distancing, we will adjust as necessary when and where learning happens.

Scenario 3: Distance Learning

If the Government of Burkina Faso mandates schools to close campus at any time during the school year, we will provide Distance Learning for our students by building on what we have learned from the 2019-2020 school year.

[Appendix 1: Distance Learning Plan](#)

Mitigating Risk

Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting

Classrooms

Cleaning will be done before classes start and after classes are finished every day. Students will be trained and asked to clean their own desk/computer station every time they leave the classroom/lab.

Shared learning materials will require students to wash their hands before and after use, and the shared materials will be disinfected after use.

Bathrooms

Cleaners will clean bathrooms several times a day.

Physical Distancing

- Students sit at their assigned desks in the classrooms, with 1m distance between all desks when possible.
- Students have their own set of learning materials when possible.
- In Elementary School, breaks take place in predetermined locations in order to ensure social distancing.
- Plexiglas shields are installed at the pedestrian entrance, reception and in the library.

Communication and Training

- Teachers and teaching assistants regularly reinforce all protocols with students.
- School employees were trained on protocols at the start of the school year, with ongoing training.
- The Director remains in close communication with health officials.
- Regular communication with families and staff takes place. Parents are informed of students who do not follow protocols within reason.

Health and Wellness

Washing hands

The basic protocol: no entering a room/office without using hand sanitizer or washing your hands.

Several handwashing stations are located throughout the campus; automated hand sanitiser dispensers are installed outside classrooms and offices.

During the school day

- Students and school employees use hand sanitizer when entering any classroom or office.
- Teachers open windows/doors to increase natural ventilation.
- Use of masks is mandated for all students.
- School employees are mandated to wear masks. Face shields are limited to teaching faculty, during class lessons and with social distancing with students in place.

Masks and Face Coverings

Wearing of Masks should be guided by recommendations by the CDC and WHO.

- Mask wearing is required on campus at all times by every individual until further notice.
- Faculty, students, and staff are required to come to campus wearing a mask and to have a back-up mask.
- Masks with exhalation ports/vents are not allowed.
- Faculty and staff may remove masks when working alone in either an enclosed office or classroom.
- Both the nose and mouth must be covered by the mask at all times
- Consult the CDC and WHO websites for specific information about how to properly wear a mask.
- Organized 'mask breaks' to increase comfort may happen for no more than five minutes, when outside in a large open space, and not within 1-2 meters of another person.
- Masks may be either fabric or cloth.
- There may be times during outdoor PE classes that masks may be temporarily removed if social distancing is possible.

Isolation Center

If a student displays symptoms of COVID-19 while on campus, they will remain in the Isolation Center until examination by the school nurse. The nurse will determine if the individual needs to be:

- Sent home with request for monitoring; or
- Sent home with the requirement for testing.

Symptomatic individuals

Students and school employees will be required to remain home or will be sent home if they exhibit one of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 38°C (100.4°F) or higher
- Dry cough
- Fatigue
- Loss of taste or smell

OR

Two or more of the following symptoms:

- Nasal congestion
- Conjunctivitis (also known as pink eye)
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Muscle or joint pain
- Different types of skin rash
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills or dizziness

In the event that a student exhibits symptoms at school, the school nurse will call the parent to arrange for immediate pickup.

Arrival and Departure Procedures

Only students, school employees, and individuals with prior appointments will be permitted on campus, and must:

- Have their temperature checked; 38°C or above, the individual will not be allowed to enter campus
- Wear a mask, and
- Wash their hands.

Parents or visitors wishing to meet with a school employee must schedule an appointment before coming to school.

- Parents and drivers must wait in the parking lot area during pickup.
- Waiting areas around campus for drivers and nannies will be closed.

All students must depart campus at regular dismissal times, unless they have pre-approved arrangements with a school employee.

Transportation

The school bus will operate with the following requirements in place:

- Masks for students, drivers and monitors.
- Temperature checks and use of hand sanitizer when boarding.

Activities, Facilities and Services

All WAISAL events have been cancelled for the 2020-2021 school year, with the exception of a few virtual events.

Snack Shack

Students in PreK-Grade 1 will be offered lunch in a reusable container. All other students will eat at the Snack Shack. Student lunches may be delivered to the guards at the pedestrian entrance, no later than 11:45am daily.

Social distancing is enforced when students are queuing, and while at tables.

Snack Shack staff follows standard hygienic protocol while cooking and serving.

Athletics Facility

The pool, tennis court, workout room, basketball court and soccer field are restricted to use by current students and school employees until further notice.

COVID-19 Positive Test Response Protocols

If a student or school employee tests positive for COVID-19, immediate contact tracing will take place. School will remain physically open, contingent upon there being a COVID-19 positivity rate of less than 5%.

Distance learning will only be provided to those who have tested positive for COVID-19, travelers who are in quarantine, or those with approval from the Director.

Scenario	Policy
Employee or student tests positive for COVID-19	Employees and students who test positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed on campus. Positive cases of COVID-19 must self isolate at home for at least 10 days, and can not return to school without a medical clearance approved by the school in advance of return, or a copy of a negative PCR test.
Employee or student has close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19	<p>Individuals who have been in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case must inform both the Director and school nurse, who will then make a determination about their attendance at school. NICD defines close contact as the following:</p> <p>“Close contact means that you had face-to-face contact within 1 metre or were in a closed space for more than 15 minutes with a person with COVID-19. This contact happened while the person with COVID-19 was still ‘infectious,’ i.e., from 2 days before to 14 days after the symptoms began.”</p> <p>This applies to any close contact outside of school, including immediate family members, household help, and any other extended family members and/or friends.</p>
Employee or student displays symptoms of COVID-19	An employee or student displaying COVID-19 symptoms will not be permitted on campus. If the individual is already on campus when symptoms present, he/she will be sent home and will need to consult with a medical professional. Any employee or student who presents COVID-19 symptoms will require a doctor’s note to return.
Close contact with a suspected case of COVID-19	Individuals who have been in close contact with a suspected case of COVID-19 should monitor their health and get tested if symptoms develop.

Travelers	Individuals who have traveled outside of the country must quarantine for seven days upon return to Burkina Faso.
Students not following safety protocols and guidelines	<p>ISO has a zero tolerance policy for student behavior that blatantly shows disregard for the safety protocols and guidelines as outlined by the school. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Refusal to wear a mask ● Falsely indicating that one has COVID-19 or imitating symptoms ● Not informing the appropriate school authorities of recent possible exposure to COVID-19. <p>Such actions may result in immediate suspension on first offense, and possible expulsion in the case of subsequent incidents.</p>
Employees not following safety protocols and guidelines	<p>All employees must strictly adhere to the safety protocols and guidelines as outlined by the school. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wearing a mask ● Distancing from colleagues and students as much as possible ● Informing the Director when they are displaying possible symptoms of COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or have themselves tested positive for COVID-19 ● Monitoring students to ensure their compliance with the safety protocols and guidelines put in place. <p>Such actions may result in a sanction by the Director.</p>
Employees required to miss work as a result of the policies stated above	All employees will be allotted an additional 10-days of leave that are to be used in relation to the COVID-19 policies as outlined above.

Notes and Reference

Document Purpose

Keeping our community safe is the primary goal of all our actions.

The intent of this evolving document is to lay out ISO's safe management measures against COVID-19 in order to safeguard a safe and appropriate environment for our school community.

The COVID-19 Action Plan serves to demonstrate that the school is doing its due diligence and ensuring compliance, as well as serving as a central repository for all our COVID-19 operational decisions.

Note: revisions to the ISO COVID-19 Action Plan will be made as new information becomes available from infectious disease experts.

Scope

These procedures apply to all staff, faculty, students, parent visitors, or any other persons entering the ISO premises.

Government Rules and Additional Guidelines for Reference

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Covid-19 regulations put in place by the Government of Burkina Faso (GoBF) can preside when conflicting with the CDC or WHO recommendations. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School operational decisions take into account:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The local community pandemic conditions○ The school-specific characteristics that enable reduced density of students○ The school's ability to mitigate risk while on campus○ Access to health care in the local community, and○ The contingency plans to enable fluid movement to hybrid models. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following the school operational procedures from CDC, WHO, and GoBF, testing for the whole school community is not a prerequisite for school opening. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO complies with current GoBF Educational regulations and monitors them for any changes. Although ISO is not under the Ministry of Education, their guidance is reviewed in decision making. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO continually reviews pandemic contingency planning at independent and International Schools with a similar profile. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of August 1st, Burkina Faso requires all passport holders to have a negative COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours for entry into Burkina Faso. |

Main resources used to guide the school's response:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-publicom>

Contingency plans of similar profile schools:

- American School of Douala
- Graded (the American School of Sao Paulo)
- American School of Cape Town
- International School of Prague

Membership Support for Reference and Operations:

- Association for Advancement of International Education <https://www.aaie.org/covid-19>
- Association of International Schools in Africa <https://aisa.or.ke/covid-19>

Version 3: Updated on February 17, 2021.