YIO CHU KANG SECONDARY SCHOOL



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15 May 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Going into Phase 2 (Heightened Alert) – 16 May to 13 June 2021

With the recent steady increase in COVID-19 cases in the community, we are further enhancing precautionary measures to keep our school a safe environment for our students, and to allow our students to continue learning. In alignment with Phase 2 (Heightened Alert), we are strengthening our Safe Management Measures (SMM). This letter gives you details about the updated plans, and SMM from 16 May till 13 June 2021.

1. Daily School Dismissals

- Students are already staggered in dismissal times by their timetable. Additionally, students leave the school through three school gates. This ensures that students do not gather in large groups during dismissal.
- Students should continue to keep themselves separate from one another after they leave the school gates and on their way home. They should not loiter at void decks or public places. If students are taking public transport, they should avoid talking in the bus or train.

2. Assemblies and school events

- We will continue not to hold large gatherings or mass assemblies in school.
- 18 May is Marking Day and students do not come to school. On this day, the Sec 4 EL Oral Exam Workshop will be conducted via Zoom. This will be followed by the DSA-JC Sharing by ASRJC for S4E and 5N, also via Zoom.
- The 17th Student Leaders Investiture will be changed to a simple and quick certificate
 presentation exercise after flag raising on 19, 20 and 21 May. Once over, each student will
 return immediately to class. We will push news about the event to all through our social
 media streams such as Facebook and Instagram to celebrate the new appointments of the
 Student Council and the Sports Leaders Committee and acknowledge the contributions of
 the leaders passing on the baton of responsibility.

3. Lessons

- All lessons will be conducted in classrooms with every student seated one metre apart from others in an examination style arrangement. Seating plans are fixed for each lesson.
- Students and teachers will have their masks on at all times.
- Sec 4 and 5 remedial lessons and consultations can continue. Lessons will be held in the classrooms with students in fixed assigned seats.

4. Recess

- In all areas of the school, students must wear masks at all times except when eating or drinking. When the mask is off at any time, students should not talk.
- Students should be seated in assigned class areas, keeping one metre distance from others.
- There will be no play activities during recess.

5. School-based and National Exams in May and June

- The Sec 4s and 5s have one final day of Mid-Year Exams on 17 May. These papers will be held in classrooms instead of the Hall. Affected students will be informed about the change of venues and will have time to make the adjustment.
- Similarly, the GCE 'O' Level Mother Tongue Language Mid-Year Exams will proceed as planned on 31 May and 1 June 2021. They will be held in classrooms with SMM in place.

6. School will ensure students are prepared for HBL Days

- Many of our teachers have already been preparing your child for HBL. For example, students are now familiar with the online Student Learning Space (SLS) and access to their account. Students have also been using a blend of digital and face-to-face learning in class.
- 18 May is Marking Day and students do not need to report to school. Instead, Sec 1s to Sec 3s will participate in the Pilot HBL (Home-Based Learning) Day. This event will familiarise students with learning from home using their newly acquired Personal Learning Device (PLD). This Pilot HBL Day is an important step in preparing students for the implementation of HBL Days in Semester 2. The HBL Days, if you recall, will take place over 6 even-week Wednesdays.
- In the event that the school needs to shift to an extended number of HBL Days suddenly, we have in place contingency plans to run such lessons. Students will thus find the Pilot HBL Day a helpful experience in their development to becoming more independent and accountable for their own learning.

7. CCAs and External Activities

- CCA and enrichment instructors will not be able to enter the school. They will conduct their sessions by Zoom.
- Students are expected to return home and attend their CCA sessions digitally.
- The LLP (Arts Media & Design) and ALP (Robotics & Emerging Technologies) lessons are built into the school timetable. These will be conducted virtually.
- All external activities are either suspended or cancelled. Instructions will be given to affected students when the organisers have confirmed the details.

8. How to support your child

- Ensure that your child limits his/her movements out and continues with good hygiene practices such as washing hands frequently with soap at home.
- If your child feels unwell, do not delay in seeing the doctor. Inform the Form Teacher if there are fever or flu-like symptoms. If there are adults in the household who are unwell please keep your child at home and inform the school.
- Reassure your child if he or she expresses anxiety. You may play an important role in helping your child see issues in proper perspective and identify how issues may be manageable. If you think it helps, do reach out to us. Our teachers and care team are on hand to give support.

MOE is monitoring the situation closely and we will update you of any changes to the precautionary measures. We partner closely with you to guide your child in these testing times that have many teachable moments. We are at a very critical point in keeping one another safe. Let us continue to do everything necessary to curb the spread of this virus.

Do keep in touch with us through the many communication channels including Parents Gateway, and check in to our Facebook and Instagram streams for updates when they arise. If you have concerns or need for clarifications, please contact any one of the following Year Heads.

Year Head Upper Sec: Mr Mok Boon Foong
 Year Head Lower Sec: Ms Kelly Cho
 64560669 ext. 118
 64560669 ext. 205

Thank you for your understanding and support. Keep safe and stay in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carol Lim Principal