

VICTORIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL



M J VERMAAK B Comm (Ed)
Principal

VICTORIA PARK DRIVE
PORT ELIZABETH

Telephone: 041 508-6400
Fax No: 041 581-2982
P.O. Box 5868, Walmer, 6065
E-Mail: info@vphs.ecape.school.za

Dear Parents and Learners

Attendance at school and the procedure to follow:

It appears that some parents and learners are not sure of the procedure to follow with respect to school attendance during the Covid-19 pandemic despite the directions given in prior communications with parents and learners and the orientation learners received when they returned.

I would like to make it clear to parents and learners as to the procedure to follow with respect to school attendance. We can only prevent the spread of this virus if we are responsible and follow the rules.

Many people with the virus will not show symptoms for the first 2-14 days, if at all. On average, it takes 3 to 6 days for the symptoms to show but it can take up to 14 days for the symptoms to show. A learner **must not come to school** in the situations listed below. They must self-isolate at home for 14 days or self-isolate for 7 days and then be tested for the virus. Once a negative test result is received, the learner may come back to school.

The situation/s where a learner must not come to school:

You are feeling ill in any way. Rather be safe than sorry.

• You seem to have:

- Fever (one of the most frequent symptoms)
- Dry Cough (one of the most frequent symptoms)
- Fatigue or weakness
- Shortness of Breath
- Loss of Sense of Smell or taste
- Sore Throat
- Headache
- Muscle and joint pains
- Body Chills
- Diarrhea
- Conjunctivitis (eye infection)

You have had contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus. This could be anyone: the driver transporting you to school, someone who lives in the same house as you or a friend.

You have been tested for Covid-19 and are awaiting the results. If the test is negative, you may come back to school. **Do not attend school while awaiting a test result.**

Someone who lives with you has had **symptoms and has been tested and is awaiting the results**. If the test is negative, you may come back to school.

It is vital that a parent or learner contact the school as soon as a positive test result is attained so that immediate action can be taken from the school, if necessary. It is vital that a parent or learner inform the school of any developments surrounding a positive test result for someone the learner has been in contact with. Open communication is VITAL in preventing community spread of Covid-19.

I ask parents and learners to be responsible in this time. If we are not all responsible, we are endangering everyone around us and that is totally unacceptable. We need you, the parents, and you, the learners, to work together with the school to ensure the safety of our learners and staff **as much as possible**. **The school cannot do this alone**. We are doing all that we can at the school to stop the spread of this virus and we need your help.

Please ensure that work from home continues, that the learner has access to data to keep up to date on information and ensure that self-study does take place.

As soon as the learner returns, he/she will need to make arrangements to catch up any tests missed while away.

Yours sincerely



M J Vermaak
Principal
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