

# ARIS Reopening Plan

## 2021-2022

ARIS will resume face to face learning (School Based Learning) for the academic year 2021-2022, with the safety of all our highest priority. The reopening of our campuses will be guided by our De-escalation Matrix and the local government directives.

This document provides the community with an overview of a new set of norms to be followed. Each section detailed here involves more in-depth protocols that will be regularly reviewed in accordance with the local health and safety developments and directives from the government, to ensure the health and safety of all members of the ARIS community.

**We are excited to welcome back all our students, as we remain committed to #inspire, #empower and #transform for a better world.**

As per the government's directives and guidelines, we look forward to implementing the *Scenario 1-Face to Face/Blended Learning*.

| Scenarios             | Scenario 1<br>Face to Face Learning  | Scenario 2<br>Hybrid/Blended Learning  | Scenario 3<br>Virtual Learning   |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Government Guidelines | Schools to reopen fully  | Schools to reopen gradually  | Schools <b>NOT</b> to reopen   |
| Safety Level-Matrix   | Level 1  | Level 2  | Level 3-4  |
| Safety Implications   | <p><b>Risk Level is LOW.</b><br/>External indicators support opening campus to full capacity and usage, along with such protocols as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical distancing</li> <li>• Personal hygiene (handwashing, masks, etc).</li> <li>• Cleaning protocols that are frequent/robust as all spaces would be in full, active use throughout the day.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Risk Level is MEDIUM.</b><br/>External indicators do not support opening campus at full density and usage. Stronger protocols are needed, such as:<br/>Density reduction targets of 40% - 60% of students on campus.</p> <p>Only the use of spaces and resources that support distancing and enhanced hygiene protocols:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced movement and contact while at school</li> <li>• Personal hygiene protocols (handwashing, masks, etc) are strictly enforced.</li> <li>• Robust cleaning protocols</li> </ul>              | <p><b>Risk Level is HIGH.</b><br/>External indicators determine that closing our campus is the best course of action. Indicators might include rapidly rising infection rates, a high degree of medical uncertainty or infections within our own school community.</p>                           |
| Learning              | <p>This is a traditional school experience with students attending school in person. Preventative hygiene policies are implemented in combination with physical distancing guidelines. The risk of exposure to the virus is considered low enough that normal schedules and structures, such as density reduction in classrooms and in other shared facilities, as appropriate.</p>            | <p>This model combines face-to-face learning with coordinated online experiences. This model introduces physical distancing and density reduction as key strategies to reduce exposure within our community, while also providing face to face interaction between students and teachers. (All lessons will be hybrid based on the student capacity on campus. Teachers providing face to face support as and when necessary to minimise contact)</p> <p>In this model, our priority would be to focus on specific groups of students joining through a gradual process.</p> | <p>Our campus is closed and schooling occurs through our Virtual Learning Platform. Students attend school virtually through synchronous and asynchronous lessons, activities and projects. In this model, local safety conditions dictate that ARIS's campuses must be closed for students.</p> |

## **SCENARIO 1:**

### **Face to Face Learning**

This model combines face to face on-site learning with coordinated blended learning experiences. This model recognizes that virtual learning does not provide the social interaction most students desire. This model introduces physical distancing and density reduction as key strategies to further reduce exposure within our community while at the same time providing face-to-face interaction between students and teachers.

#### **HYBRID/ BLENDED MODEL SCHEDULE**

In this schedule, we will expect students to be on campus during the week. This model is flexible and can adjust to the specific health and safety situation and our enrollment numbers.

Please note that if we have exceeded the maximum capacity for each class bubble, then we will reset our schedule with different groups attending face-to-face learning and distance learning at designated days and/or times.

#### **IN EARLY YEARS, PRIMARY YEARS, AND MIDDLE YEARS STUDENTS**

They will be assigned to a cohort with whom they will spend the day for all classes. Class size will be defined by the space available. Teachers will travel to the different classrooms to deliver specialist subjects or electives. The only exception will be PE which will be held outside, weather permitting. As ARIS offers more than 5 languages, the language programme will be delivered on our online platform to minimize student mixing and teachers will go around checking on students in different classes. Early years will spend a significant amount of the day outdoors, learning through play.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (CP/DP/MYP4&5)**

They will have schedules that minimise contact with others but will allow students to attend the selected courses on their path towards graduation. The schedule is designed to support student learning and will mainly be focused on the use of our online learning platform.

## DUAL DELIVERY

For students enrolled in ARIS and not able to attend classes on site, due to Covid infection, a dual delivery system has been designed to support asynchronous virtual learning. We recognise that some students may not be able to come to school due to one or more of the following:

- Having been identified as a High-Risk Student or Family (evidence must be provided).
- Infected with Covid and needs to self-isolate for 14 days (asynchronous virtual learning 2 live sessions per week.)

## HEALTH AND SAFETY ON CAMPUS

The health and safety of the ARIS community remain our number one priority. The protocols and guidelines we have developed are based on the local guidelines already shared with schools and the growing literature on COVID-19 mainly from the Center for Disease Control-CDC and the World Health Organisation-WHO.

As we plan for reopening the campus for our staff, students and the rest of our community, four critical areas are core to our policies and protocols:

1. Physical distancing (1 meter)
2. Preventive hygiene and health screening at the gate
3. Cleaning and sanitizing
4. Communication, training and coordination

ARIS will ensure that the following strategies are in place.



Temperature check



Increased cleaning



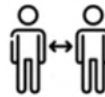
Frequent hand washing



No visitors on campus



Hand sanitizer



Physical distancing



Face masks



No gatherings

Increased cleaning and disinfection of classrooms, other learning spaces, and offices will take place regularly, with particular attention given to higher risk areas such as door handles, desk surfaces, light switches and other “touchpoints”. Teachers and upper primary students will also be requested to regularly clean their tablets and personal resources.

Before sending their children to Campus, parents **MUST**:

- Complete a temperature and symptoms check every day before children leave home
- Ensure that children with symptoms or illnesses are not allowed to leave home
- Ensure that students who have been in contact with a COVID-19 case (or someone in their household has) must communicate this to the Head of School immediately and stay home for 14 days
- Travelers must complete the Summer Travel Survey.
- Stay informed about the local situation, ARIS protocols and the risks involved with school attendance.

### ACCESS TO THE ARIS CAMPUS

- While on campus, **everyone** is required to wear a mask based on the local authority. Nobody can access the campus without a mask. *According to the WHO children aged 5 years and under should not be required to wear masks, and we will support kids with this.*
- Gates open at 7:30 am for Group 2, and 7:45 am for Group 1. A full plan will be shared with drop off/pick up times and flow for all families.

- On arrival staff and students' temperature will be screened. If temperature is 37.5 degrees Celsius or above, staff will not be allowed into campus while students will be isolated in a specialised room by the nurse until pick-up by parents
- Everyone entering the campus will be asked if they are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms or if they have been in contact with or cared for someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days
- Physical distancing and hand sanitization will be a regular requirement
- Additional hand washing and sanitizing stations will be made available around the campus
- Parents are only allowed into campus by appointment. Nannies and drivers are not allowed on campus
- Early Years & Primary Children will be assisted into the campus by ARIS staff
- There will be clearly defined protocols posted for movement around the campus and access to school facilities, bathrooms and corridors

## HEALTH AND SAFETY OF STUDENTS

The health and safety of the students and staff is our top priority.

Every student on campus will need to abide by the following:

- Home temperature check must read below 37.5
- Students must follow social distancing at all times of 1m
- Students must follow signage, health and hygiene procedures prescribed by the school
- Students will be checked for temperature again at the inner gate and given hand sanitizer
- All students must wear a face mask at all times while on campus, except for lunchtime and PE lessons
- Students must bring a personal size hand sanitizer, tablet/laptop, and headphones, books as timetabled, stationary, school supplies, water bottles (1 minimum), adequate snacks and carry them in their bags at all times, as there will be no sharing at all.
- Students must be in ARIS Official Uniform as timetabled.
- Canteen services will resume with a staggered re-opening, beginning with pre-ordered, pre-packed meals. All health and safety protocols will be enforced. The menu and order forms will be available during the Taking Care of Business Week, and shared on the online platforms.
- If you will send lunch/snacks with your ward, it must come with them at drop-off. We are not able to accept lunch deliveries throughout the day.

## REOPENING SCHEDULE

August 2-6 will be used for **Taking Care of Business Week** (Security ID Card, uniform purchase, exercise books, pre-order lunch services)

If a student experiences fever, cough, cold/flu or any other symptoms of COVID, **they must remain at home until the School Nurse provides consent for him/her to attend face to face classes.**

## STUDENTS LEARNING FROM HOME

It is important to note that we will work with all parents, students, and staff who have high-risk cases and or have contracted Covid (evidence required). We are aware that some of our students will be mainly following a virtual mode of learning with us as they are high risk\*. If you have a high-risk case, please notify the Head of School for a learning plan.

Please note a valid reason **MUST** be provided in writing to the Head of School for your wards absence.

Students qualified as high risk are:

- Students suffering from any medical conditions like asthma, diabetes, auto-immune disease etc.
- Students who share living spaces with the elderly and/or vulnerable
- Student/household member contracted Covid needs to self-isolate for 14 days

## CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

We will adhere to the following guidelines:

- Classroom cohorts of 15-20 students have been created by class

- The virus spreads most easily in enclosed environments. Therefore, staff members will be asked to keep windows open to allow movement of air during the day.
- If needed, our regular class size will be split into two groups to accommodate for social distancing.
- There will be a distance of 1 meter between desks.
- Students may be required to stay in one classroom only and mix only with their group and teachers.

## ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

- We have clear protocols for access to and sanitisation of common resources like photocopiers, printers and learning tools which will be less frequently used.
- Washrooms will be sanitised after each students' use. An attendant is available in each washroom and will make sure to do so.
- Students will be required to bring in their own resources and devices (see 21/22 Device Policy) and will not be allowed to share. Teachers will ensure that these resources are regularly disinfected.
- Outdoor facilities and playgrounds will be regularly sanitised after use and washed after each scheduled session
- Break/playtime for outside play and activities as much as possible will be staggered.
- PE and Dance will occasionally be conducted outside if the weather permits
- PE, Music and Dance resources, if any at all, will only be reused after sanitisation.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR PERSONAL USE

- Playgroup only (Additional List):
  - Extra diapers
  - Small-sized bedsheet, cover and pillow
  - Three complete changes of clothing (labeled in a ziplock bag)
- Early Years students MUST bring the following items from home:
  - Raincoat and Rain boots (when requested)
  - Sanitizer
  - Alcohol based disinfecting wipes
  - Tissue box
  - Labeled extra face masks (if used) in a resealable or ziplock bag to be kept in school bag
  - Extra clothes (underwear, socks, t-shirt, shorts) that need to be kept in their bags for emergency



- Primary Students (Early Years to Year 6) will need to bring their own resources (in a clear plastic container shoebox size) as part of their stationery, and their exercise books. There will be no sharing of resources.

[Playgroup School Supply List 2021\\_22](#)

[Nursery School Supply List 2021\\_22](#)

[Reception 1 2 School Supply List 2021\\_22](#)

[Year 3\\_4\\_5\\_6 School Supply List 2021\\_22](#)

## **SECONDARY STUDENTS SHOULD BRING**

- Labeled water bottle
- Personal Device
- Headphones
- Pre-packed lunchbox (must be sent in the morning with your ward, we can not accept lunch deliveries during school hours)
- Stationary
- Personal Sanitizers and Wipes
- Students are NOT to share any resources, devices or food
- Students can NOT order outside food deliveries

### **Your ward will start on:**

- Playgroup & Nursery: **Wednesday 18 August (early release)**
- Reception to Year 13: **Wednesday 11 August (early release)**

### **Early Release Wednesday:**

#### Primary

- Group 1 (1:20 pm)
- Group 2 (1:35 pm)

#### Secondary

- 1:30 pm

## SCHOOL HOURS

The main gate will be open from **(7:30 am)** for **Group 2** and **(7:45 am)** for **Group 1**. **The gate** will be closed promptly at **8:05 am**. At 8:05 am, once the gate is locked, you will need to park in the outer lot and escort your ward on foot, through the pedestrian gate to the main office to sign the late register. As you know we will have all of our staff on duty receiving the children, once the bell rings, the staff will be in the class and the gates will be locked.

**Please call the school if your ward will be late. At 8:05 am the gates will be closed to all vehicle traffic. You must communicate in advance if your ward will be late.**

- 054 189 7254 (primary)
- 030 254 4511 (secondary)
  
- Primary lessons will begin at **8:00 am** sharp and end at **Group 1 (3:20 pm)** and **Group 2 (3:30 pm)**. **Wednesday early release at Primary Group 1 (1:20 pm) and Group 2 (1:35 pm)**. **Secondary 1:30 pm.**
  
- Secondary homeroom lessons will begin at **7:45**, classes start at **8:00 am** and end at **3:20 pm, Wednesday early release at 1:30 pm.**

### *Playgroup to Year 3:*

Breakfast break will be 8:50-9:20 am

Lunch break at 12:30 pm to 1:15 pm.

### *Year 4-6:*

Breakfast break will be 9:30-9:55 am

Lunch break from 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm.

No Lunch service on Wednesday.

### *Secondary Years 7-13:*

Breakfast break will be 9:15-9:35 am.

Break 2 will be from 10:50-11:10 am

Lunch Break will be from 1:30-2:05 pm

No Lunch service on Wednesday.

## ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

All parents/drivers will be expected to follow the safety **drop-off/pick-up traffic flow** that will be shared during the Taking Care of Business Week.

- ARIS Primary Staff will be outside to receive the children from their cars
- Students should have their bags on their laps and be ready to get out of the car without opening the boot. This will speed up the drop-off/pick-up schedules.

### **DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL**

The Teacher & Assistants will take students to the exit area for the valet style pick up.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS PROGRAMME**

- As per the Ghana Government directives and no concerns for student safety
- Module 1 sign-ups (8-weeks) will begin mid-September

Our Ed-tech tools make our learning effective in whichever model of learning in any of the scenarios.

This reopening plan will be updated as and when necessary. Please let us know if you have any concerns and/or queries.

Wishing you all a safe and happy learning journey!