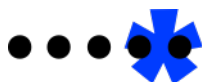


PARENTS GUIDE FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL IN 2021



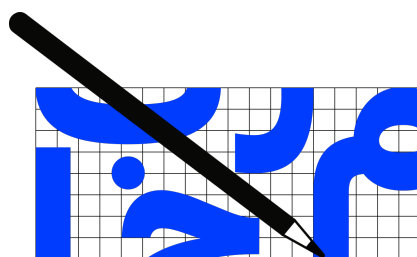
Dear Parents,

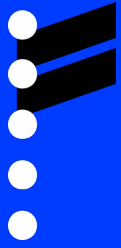
As our community, and the world at large, begins recovering from a challenging year, we at ADEK are pleased to welcome children back to school in February 2021.

As a follow-up to the *Parent Guide for Private Schools Reopening* and the *Parent Guide for Navigating the Academic Year 2020/21*, ADEK has developed this guide, *The Parent Guide for Returning to School in 2021* to inform you of any important changes in policies that may impact your child's return to school.

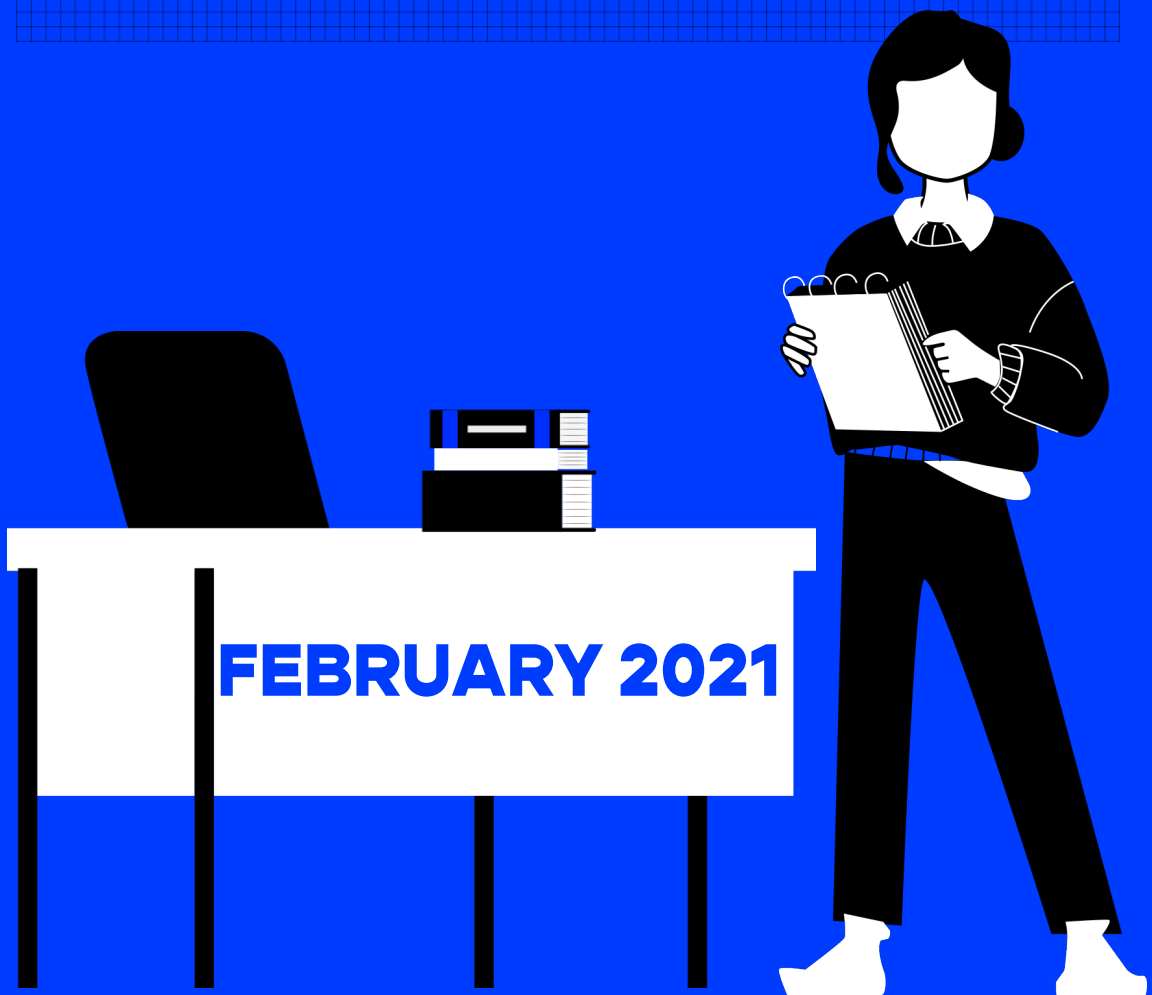
Please be assured that the safety of our children, staff and wider community is paramount, and that all changes in policy have come about through a thorough consultation process with experts and stakeholders.

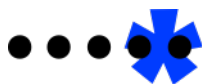
We are grateful for your support throughout these challenging times and hope to work with you to create a thriving environment for Abu Dhabi's children this year.





POLICY UPDATES FOR THE NEW TERM

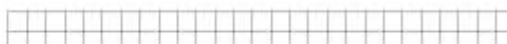


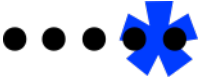


IMPORTANT POLICY UPDATES FOR THIS TERM

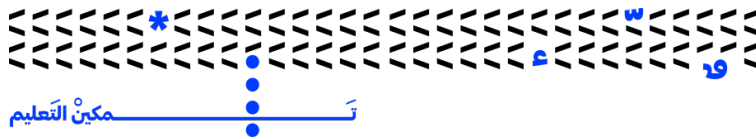
- ④ **All students** may physically return to school starting 14 February 2021.
 - * Due to capacity constraints, some schools may still not be able to welcome all students back simultaneously. Check with your school regarding your child's schedule.
 - * Your child can continue distance learning if this is your preferred learning mode.
 - * Parents must commit to a learning mode (distance learning or face-to-face) at the beginning of the term.

- ④ Students (and staff) with **chronic health conditions** are allowed to attend school in-person if they provide:
 - * A physician's note approving their return to school.
 - * A risk undertaking form, which you will need to sign (your school will provide this document).

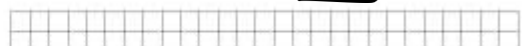
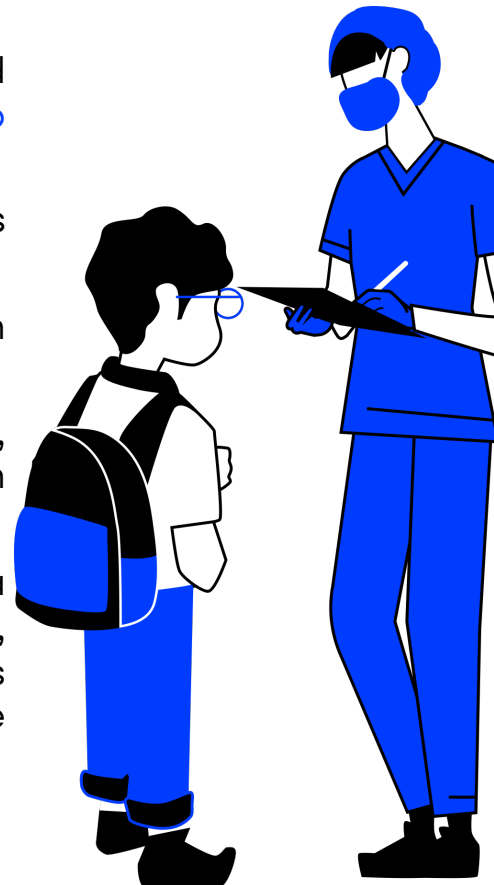


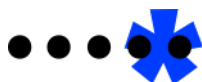


- Mandatory **COVID-19 Testing** for all students aged 12 and above who plan to physically return to school.
 - * Testing is only mandatory if your child intends to return to school physically.
 - * Students of Determination are exempt from testing.

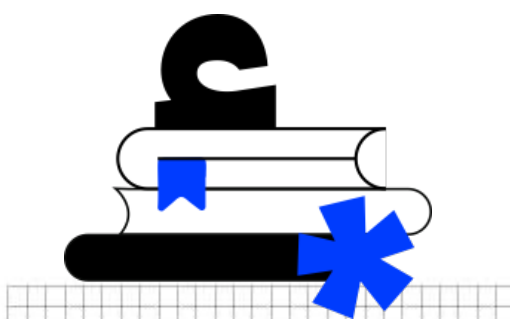


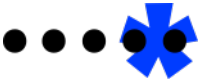
- The **maximum** number of students allowed in one class has been **increased from 15 to 30 students**.
 - * Students must be seated 1.5 meters apart from each other.
 - * Masks are mandatory for students in Grade 1 and above.
 - * For KG children arranged in **bubbles**, the maximum number of students in a bubble remains capped at 10.
 - * For KG students who are learning in a regular class setting (not bubbles), the maximum number of students allowed is 25, with 1.5 meters distance between them.





- ④ **To prevent any school-based transmission** of COVID-19, a few precautions will continue to be in place
 - * If one positive case of COVID-19 is identified in the school community, all contacts of the infected person must self-isolate for 10 days, possibly including all members of their household as well.
 - * If there are two or more cases of COVID-19 identified in the school, the school may be partially or fully shifted to distance learning for a minimum of 10 days.
- ④ We wish you and your family good health. However, in the rare case that your **child falls ill with COVID-19**, they will be allowed to return to school when **all** of the following conditions are met:
 - * Clinical improvement (i.e., relief of symptoms such as fever, cough, breathlessness etc.)
 - * Completion of the required isolation period and 2 consecutive negative PCR test results

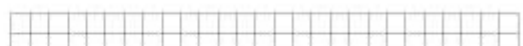


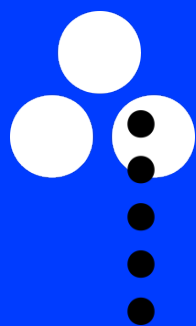


- ⦿ Buses will be allowed to carry **up to 66%** of their maximum passenger capacity, depending on the type of vehicle.
 - * Buses with a total capacity of 28 students will carry 18 students only.
 - * Buses with a total capacity of 33 students will carry 22 students only.
 - * Buses with a total capacity of 61 students will carry 35 students only.
 - * Alternating seats must be left empty to ensure social distancing while riding the bus.

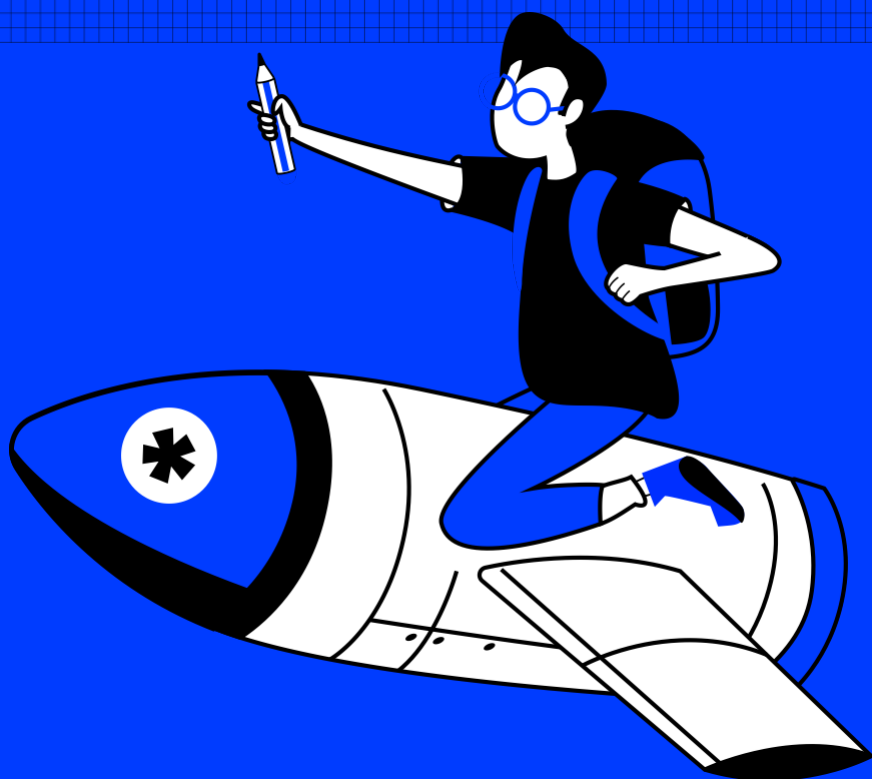
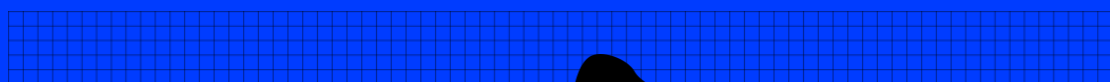


- ⦿ Parents may **access the school** for administrative purposes, to accompany their young child, or for guided tours (new and prospective students) under the following conditions:
 - * A negative PCR test result with a validity of less than 96 hours.
 - * An emergency use status (“e” symbol) on the AlHosn application.
- ⦿ **Light organized athletic activities** may be held outdoors during PE hours, provided that social distancing is observed and personal protective equipment is worn.





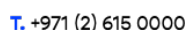
HELPFUL TIPS FOR A SMOOTH RETURN TO SCHOOL

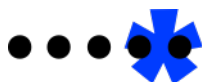




- * Sign and submit a declaration form from your school stating that you will keep your child at home if they display any symptoms of COVID-19.
- * Check their temperature daily.
- * If they show COVID-19 symptoms (nausea, fever, sore throat, loss of smell or taste etc.), keep them at home.
- * If they have other signs of illness, like a cough, diarrhea, severe headache, or body aches, keep them at home.
- * If they have been in contact with a positive COVID-19 case, keep them at home and inform the school.

- * Maintaining a 1.5-meter distance from their peers and teachers at school.
- * Washing and sanitizing their hands frequently.
- * Wearing a mask and keeping it on all day except while eating.
- * Avoid sharing objects with others.



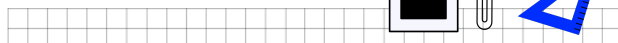


④ **Provide essential supplies:**

- * Face masks (at least 2) in case a change is needed
- * Hand sanitizer
- * Lunchbox and water bottle
- * Disinfectant wipes
- * Digital gear (if applicable)
- * Stationery

④ **Follow arrival and pick-up regulations**

- * Accompany your children to the dedicated arrival zone. Remember: only one parent should be present.
- * Be on time if schools stagger entry and exit times for students to avoid large queues and crowding.
- * If you accompany your child as they stand in the queue, you must wear a mask and maintain social distancing.
- * Please avoid entering the school premises unless extremely necessary.
 - * Exceptions are made if you are accompanying a Student of Determination.
 - * Exceptions to this policy, and requirements for entering the school are outlined on Page 7 of this guide.



Stay up-to-date with new developments and previous regulations through the following resources

- [ADEK schools reopening web page](#)
- ADEK Parents Hotline: 800ADEK (8002335)
- ADEK Social media channels:
 - [ADEK insta](#) / [ADEK tweet](#)

