



Michael Mount Waldorf School

Nurturing conscious, creative, independent thinkers

July 12, 2021

Dear Michael Mount Community,

I hope you have all enjoyed a well-deserved break and have kept yourselves and your families safe during this third wave.

We were fortunate to have had this lockdown during our planned mid-year break, and to have not lost any valuable lesson time. Following the President's speech yesterday, however, the school will now re-open remotely on the 20th July for online teaching, and will only re-open physically on the 26th July.

Term 3 will begin on Tuesday, 20th July as planned, as per the following:

Early Childhood

Our babies, toddlers and nursery children (up to age five) may all return to school on Tuesday 20th July, as they fall under the Department of Social Development, and not the Department of Basic Education. Nursery children aged six (those who will go to class 1 next year) must remain at home. Your teacher will be in contact regarding packs to be sent home for the six year olds.

Classes 1 – 7

There will be online classes and / or packs. Your class teacher will be in contact with you shortly with details.

Classes 8 – 12

All classes will be online as per your child's normal timetable. Please ensure that your child has an MS Teams password. If their password has been forgotten or not working, Mrs P Godlonton can assist at pgodlonton@michaelmount.co.za

Covid notifications

Please be reminded when somebody in your household tests positive for the Covid-19 virus, the following steps must be adhered to:

1. Notify the school - If a student or family member tests positive or has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, please inform Claire Bharath at the school on 011 706 6125 ext.202 or at cbharath@michaelmount.co.za
2. Isolate - All members of that household must please isolate for 10 days, or until all family members have recovered and been cleared with a medical doctor's note.

Steps the school will take if a child or teacher tests positive:

1. The school will inform the Health Department and we will call to inform each family in that class. Please be advised that we may not disclose the name of the child.
2. The decision whether or not to close the class will be made on a case-by-case basis determined by exposure, and the last day that the child / teacher was present at school.



Registered member of

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If a member of a child's / teacher's household tests positive, or if that person has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, the school will send a message to the class informing them of the secondary exposure.

Should the notification of a positive case come while a child is at school, we will - as discreetly as possible - call the child away from the class and ask that they be collected immediately.

Communication

We urge you to avoid posting on WhatsApp groups before the school has sent out official notifications. This is to avoid confusion and miscommunication.

Safety protocols at school

Please refer to the attached protocol sheet, which outlines the safety measures in place at Michael Mount. We ask that parents once again remind their children of these protocols and instill the importance of following them.

Vaccinations

A large number of our teachers and support staff received their vaccinations during the holiday, thanks to the Department of Health's vaccine rollout to the education sector.

Dear Parents, hopefully we are on the downward slope of the third wave. The end of last term brought home the reality of this pandemic with us having to partially close the High School and several Primary School classes.

I would like to assure you, that we at Michael Mount are doing everything we can to ensure the safety of our community. The closure of classes is not a decision that we take lightly, but in these cases it was necessary. We remain hopeful that the end to this pandemic is in sight, and "normality" is just over the horizon.

Please do keep yourselves and your families safe.

Regards,

Mr J.W. Bester
Administrator