



Hoërskool

LADYSMITH

High School

Posbus 33 / PO Box 33
LADYSMITH
KwaZulu-Natal
3370

Telefoon : (036)
637-7091/2
Telephone : (036)
637-2221/2

Faks/Fax : (036) 637-2531
E-mail : info@lhs.co.za
Website : lhs.co.za

11 February 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

2021 FIRST TERM PROGRAMME UNDER COVID-19

As we prepare to begin our school year we are all aware of the impact that the COVID-19 virus has had on our lifestyles and families. We have seen countries around the world, including our own, reeling from the devastating health crisis brought on by the exponential spread of this highly contagious and deadly pathogen.

The LHS educators, support staff and cleaners worked tirelessly to combat the spread of this disease in 2020. We will continue to observe all protocol stipulated by the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Health and implement our own stringent measures to safeguard the LHS family. To this end we consulted highly qualified frontline medical specialists last year to assess and refine our COVID-19 protocol and procedures. It is definitely in your child's best interest to observe all protocol without fear or prejudice. We are all only as safe as our own behaviour dictates. It is true that all our full-time Grade 12 learners (180) of 2020 wrote their final NSC exams. We eagerly await their results.

Rest assured that our Governing Body understands that your child is your most precious possession. The Governing Body has provided all additional safety equipment, over and above that which was provided by the KZN Department of Education. Social distancing and regular hand sanitizing are now a way of life. Masks are to be worn by everyone without exception. Educators will lead by example. Everyone entering the school building will be screened on a daily basis. This means they will be asked a set of questions to establish if they have any symptoms and their temperature will be recorded with a digital thermometer. Only if the learners receive the all clear will they attend school for the day. If not, they will be isolated until the parent or guardian can collect them for further intervention. Educators will not attend school if they display any sign of illness. Your child must do the same.

We will continue with COVID protocol which was refined last year. Only Grade 12 learners will attend school daily. Grades 8 and 10 will alternate with Grades 9 and 11 as per the attached programme. In the interests of making up for the delayed start of the school year, all learners must arrive on their first day prepared to follow the academic timetable.

With regards to the issue of the school uniform, good hygiene practices must prevail. One cannot wash the school blazer and school tie daily, for this reason only Grade 12 learners may alternate civvies with uniform. They will wear uniform on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and civvies on a Tuesday and Thursday. All other grades will wear school uniform since they attend classes on alternate days.

Only grade 12 learners will enter through the small pedestrian gate at the Tennis Courts screening. All other learners will enter the school at the sliding gate between the Tennis Courts and the Girls' Hostel from 07:00 every morning. Motorcyclists will also enter here and park on the driveway next to the gate. Learners will queue for screening on the pathway between the Tennis Courts.

All social distancing protocol must be observed during screening and throughout the school day, including break times. When the school day ends at 14:30, learners will exit the school premises from the same gates. Access to the school at the main gate by parents, visitors, officials and suppliers will be strictly controlled and documented.

Due to the inherent risks associated with extra-mural activities, and the added strain on staff and learners to complete the academic programme under duress, there is no sense in pursuing an extra-mural programme. This decision was not made lightly and may be revoked if COVID risk factors are significantly reduced in the foreseeable future.

The Governing Body is sympathetic to the plight of all families who are under tremendous financial strain to make ends meet. To apply for a full or partial school fee subsidy, please collect forms from the front office. Please bear in mind that the payment of school fees is legally binding (Section 39-41 of the South African Schools' Act, Act 84 of 1996). It would be highly appreciated if more school fee and textbook payments could be made via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or bank deposits in order to limit the number of visitors to the school. Use the following bank details please:

- Bank: Nedbank
- Account number: 1330067347
- Branch code: 133025
- School fees Reference: Child's NAME and SURNAME
- Textbook Payment Reference: BOOKS, Child's NAME and SURNAME

If we are all committed to do our very best to protect ourselves and one another, we may well succeed in this endeavour.

Kind regards



HJ CLARK
PRINCIPAL