New Horizons College, Minna

Principal’s Pre-Resumption Newsletter

2nd October, 2020 (13th Safar 1442 AH)

“If people are doubting how far you can go, go so far that you can’t hear them anymore.” -Michele Ruiz

“Do what you feel in your heart to be right - for you will be criticized anyway.” -Eleanor Roosevelt

**Assalaamu alaykum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuh.**

Dear Parents,

Alhamdulillah for the light we now see at the end of the tunnel with regard to our children resuming in school after a 7-month hiatus from being in school.

Today, we held a meeting with the PTA Exco to discuss plans and arrangements we have or are putting in place to make the resumption a reality in line with the Covid-19 safety regulations.

Please find below a summary of the preparations and arrangements made, as well as conclusion reached after the parley:

* For some time now, we have been using temperature guns to check the temperature of visitors and staff daily. No staff or visitor is allowed into the compound if his/her temperature exceeds 37.5 oC. In addition, no one is allowed to enter the compound without wearing a facemask or using hand sanitizer. **Conclusion: The same will apply to parents and students coming into the compound.**
* We have provided sanitizers at all entry points into the school and hostels, as well as provided sanitizers within the corridors of the school block and hostels. **Parents must ensure students resume with a minimum of 3 pocket-size sanitizers as well as either 2 packets (containing a hundred pieces each) of disposal face masks which must have the name of the student written with permanent marker, or a minimum of 6 cloth face masks with the name of each student embroidered on such masks.**
* No staff is permitted to talk with students without the use of facemask and they must maintain social distance.
* Kitchen staff and cooks must use face masks and face shields while handling the food meant for students.
* The hostels will be fumigated again in readiness for resumption as was done before SS3 students resumed for WAEC.
* We have made arrangements to ensure that each room in the hostel will have no more than 6 students.
* Social distancing measures are to be put in place in the school block and during transition between periods and breaktime.
* Only one Assembly will be held per month and social distancing measures will be employed during such sessions.
* Each hostel is to have at least one isolation room.
* We intend to purchase some testing kits to test suspected cases if such need ever arises.
* On resumption day, SS1-3 students are to resume on Saturday 10th October before 5pm, while JSS1-3 are to resume on Sunday 11th October before 5pm. Social distancing measures have been put in place to ensure overcrowding does not occur at financial clearance points and Hostel check-in points. All boys are to have their luggage screened in the Tafsir hall. Clearance will be done in batches. We will work as quickly as possible. We ask parents to be patient during the entire clearance process**.**
* We have arranged for monthly dua sessions to constantly seeking Allah’s protection for us and our children.
* **Parents of day students are to ensure day students are brought early enough in order to process them through temperature checks, use of hand sanitizers and other checks, to reduce delays which may cause them to be late for lessons.**
* **Parents are to caution their children not to violate the measures put in place for their own protection; these include, hugging each other, clustering in each other’s rooms and crowding such rooms, not using their masks, arguing that COVID-19 doesn’t exist, etc.**
* **All students must contact blood test for malaria and typhoid; boarders will be asked to produce test result during clearance at the hostel, while day students will be asked for their test result when they resume on Monday. In addition, parents should please not bring back to school any child who is ill.**
* **Lastly, no students owing backlog of fees will be allowed to resume without clearing the backlog and making 75% payment of fees for First term. (Those who have made the deposit for commitment fee will only have to top up the balance; while those who have made full payments already for the First term, will have their receipts prepared ahead of their arrival, to ensure they have a speedy clearance.)**

In sha Allah with all these measures put in place, we are hopeful that this term will come and go without any serious health concern of any nature including coronavirus.

Wassalamu alaykum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuh.



Mustafa Mas’ood

Principal