SUNRIDGE VANDAG | SUNRIDGE TODAY

CONJUNCTI CRESCIMUS

4 June 2020

Dear Parents

Thank you for being supportive and understanding that we act with what is in front of us. The responsibility is not an easy one but we are dealing with it. I can assure you that we will not open Sunridge if we do not comply.

DBE = Department of Basic Education (National)
DOE = Department of Education (Eastern Cape)

Regulations are published by the DBE and Instructions are issued by the DOE. As Principal I need to comply and ensure that we put all in place. If we cannot comply, I cannot continue with work, open the school or deliver a service. Unfortunately, the issuing of new regulations and instructions is out under my control. What we put in writing today can change by tomorrow, please bear with us as it is beyond our control.

We did different surveys to ensure we have data available to plan in our quest to comply but also to serve. Although we asked for permission to do screening as instructed by the Department, the regulation is however simple, NO screening NO entry. We complied by asking.

Nothing sinister with the disclaimer and indemnity form either. We need to know that you know that there are risks for all of us. While staff would be under the same disclaimer and indemnity when your child comes to school, so would you or your child. We never say it is compulsory and only use it as a way to communicate the message. It is simple; we will act responsibly and comply but cannot give any guarantees.

There are many questions and not always as many answers. Parents are comparing schools and the easy way would be to "sugar coat" and tell you what you want to hear. There are always others who do it better or more to one's liking. So be it, we do not have the luxury to entertain it, nor are we in competition with any other school. With the utmost respect, it is your choice to make. I can assure you that we will comply, we can comply BUT we will never make it an advertisement or rat race for publicity. This is about children only, no branding of face masks, visors or whatever.

We have appointed an attorney who is a Professional Occupational Health and Safety Officer, independent and working for an international company. She is fully qualified and someone already dealing with these types of issues (Mrs E Greeff - 0728008649).

Should you feel that you do not trust the school you may contact the Compliance Officer, (Mrs E. Greeff) a friendly but very direct lady. I am not second-guessing her approval and I am satisfied with her qualifications and background. As she clearly put it to the SMT during training, it is now the children and how they react and behave that will determine the way forward.

The school was visited last Friday and again on Monday, 1 June 2020 for compliance. We fully complied and received a comprehensive report in this regard. This means that we are complying with the regulations BUT we believe that we need to do more, so we are expanding our health and safety measures and testing them.

We need to ensure that we can uphold the compliance on a daily basis. We are testing our SOP and measures we have put into place, this takes time and we will be making adjustments. Our appointed COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee will deal with issues and clarify them with the Compliance Officer as we move forward. She will also be visiting us on Friday for our Grade 7 orientation.

We will place a few presentations on Facebook for you to see what we are doing and what we have put into place. While all of this is taking place we are still planning and providing remote education to all.

One big issue is the fact that the supply of PPE's needs to be provided by the DOE but we must also test the sustainability of the supply or our ability to take over the function. After many reports on the failure by the DOE to deliver PPE yesterday we received the following: 45 re-usable face masks, 9 unbranded 25 litre drums of sanitizer with no data sheet – we have locked these away as we cannot use it; 1 roll of industrial paper towel.

With what is supplied we can clearly not comply to open our school. The SGB has already stepped in to ensure we could comply with the cleaning and PPE's for staff to work.

The SGB have stepped again in for the return of the Grade 7's and will provide two re-usable face masks for each learner, each with 3 filters. We will have sufficient hand sanitizer in each classroom

A visor will help a learner, your own toilet paper and paper towel will support them as well. With a small hand sanitizer for just in case we believe that we then over comply.

Permits will be issued to the Grade 7 learners on Friday.

<u>A few points to highlight:</u>

- Only 12 learners per class – complying to 1,5meter social distance at all times.
- All passages marked with 1,5meter social distance.
- Outside 1,5meter social distance marked with red bricks.
- Bathrooms set up with liquid soap, running water and a foot paddle hand sanitizer.
- Optional: paper towels and toilet rolls available
- Only two learners can enter the bathroom at any given time.
- Teachers keep record of time and usage of the bathrooms
- Learners will receive sterilized cards with a number for the use of a specific facility.
- She bins in every lady's toilet – only serviced by Bidvest
- Centralized trained cleaner stationed outside to clean, door handle, tap, toilet, basin or urinal used when the learner leaves.
- Centralized trained monitor also stationed outside to monitor the process
- Bathrooms get fully cleaned and disinfected daily

URGENT - NEW

Although we asked for parents to stay until their child is scanned and allowed entry, we feel this will cause traffic issues. We want to get all learners into our premises within 30 minutes (07:30 to 08:00). We kindly request that you rather park as far away as possible from gate 3 and 14 after dropping your child off or even go home or to work. We will rather call you to fetch your child. We have introduced a “Cool Off “station as we believe that only temperature could be an issue. You should therefore always ask and confirm the questions as we send home to ensure that you eliminate them as possibility.

Back to School: Options A to C

I need to clarify the following aspect. The newsletter and other documentation need to be read very carefully. There is a huge difference between option B (remote schooling) we offer and home schooling. We will continue to provide remote schooling for Grade 1 to 6 and where allowed for Grade 7. The DBE has however changed the instruction with the return of Grade 7 learners.

Should you choose Home Schooling, you need to apply by following the Departmental document and regulations. You will need to wait for approval and that is where the letter from the SGB comes in.

Should you, however, choose to do remote schooling due to children who are dealing with medical challenges and who wish to come back to Sunridge when they are able to, application must also be made. The DBE wants all Grade 7’s to return to school as soon as possible.

You need to apply and the Department will approve or disapprove. A new instruction issued yesterday instructed me to have a meeting with parents making the application. An SGB representative will also be present and I have to work through 9 points as part of my recommendations. It will also be my responsibility to send your application to the DOE. I will make contact with all parents choosing to keep a child at home for whatever reason. To support me to deal with the matter I request parents to complete the form as asked. (Only for Grade 7 learners at this stage)

We undertake to keep on providing the service as we have done, as long as your child is still enrolled or until we receive the approval from the DOE. This is to support you as your child is still at Sunridge while you await the outcome of your application or maybe for your child to overcome the medical challenges. Nothing degrading, it is a reality and we respect that.

With any serious health risk or illness, we kindly request you to keep your child at home, complete the form and provide documentation in support to us.

With normal illness or COVID-19 symptoms you also need to keep your child home and inform us. This is for short time frames. Should you, however, go into self-isolation you also need to inform us.

We will communicate with you on our plans to deliver the option C choice. That will only commence from next week.

We will provide support and we apologize for any misunderstanding.

School Fees

This is an issue I only refer to as “the right thing to do”. I do not deal with it but take note of comments and a few matters which could bring parents in conflict with the law. It is for this reason only that I need to clarify something.

Some parents argue that no service has been delivered by the school for the past two months, that is a bold statement and not true. Whatever other reason there might be for any parent other than what is allowed by law will have consequences over which I have no control. I only refer your communication while taking note of allegations.

With the knowledge I have, school fees should have been paid in full by the end of February for 2020. The SGB supports parents by allowing them to pay over 12 months. Should your problem however be due to a financial reason you need to follow procedure, contact Mrs Hart as she can advise you on how to apply for exemption of school fees if applicable.

Should you wish to leave Sunridge, please notify the SGB via info@sunridge.co.za and remember that two months’ notice to them is compulsory as on your signed application. They can hold you liable for school fees. Again I am only applying the policy.

Badmouthing staff and making accusations on their service delivery is not the “right thing to do” as that will surely not change your obligation to pay school fees. I believe that the staff are providing an excellent service under the circumstances and I respect them for that. You may disagree and I respect that too, I however do not respect badmouthing and accusations as made by a few parents.

I rather want to thank all parents for paying school fees, making arrangements and following procedure by applying for exemption. Thank you for doing that.

The biggest question will be if schools will be ready to open on Monday, 8 June 2020. We are ready but also not in a vacuum should we receive an instruction from the DOE not to open - it is out of our hands. Should the current instruction stand, we will open.

Please be safe

Sunshine greetings

M DE VRIES
Principal

TAVCOR SUZUKI

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4 Junie 2020

Geagte Ouers

Baie dankie vir u ondersteuning en begrip daarvoor dat ons net volgens die inligting tot ons beskikking kan optree – dit is nie 'n maklike verantwoordelikheid nie, maar ons doen maar wat oor ons pad kom. Ek kan u verseker dat ons Sunridge slegs sal heropen indien ons aan alle vereistes voldoen.

DBO = Departement van Basiese Onderwys (Nasionaal)
DVO = Departement van Onderwys (Oos-Kaap)

Regulasies word deur die DBO gepubliseer en deur die DVO uitgereik. Ek as Skoolhoof moet verseker dat ons aan alle vereistes voldoen en dat alles in plek geplaas is. As ons nie aan die vereistes voldoen nie, kan ek nie verder werk, die skool heropen of 'n diens lewer nie. Ongelukkig het ek geen beheer oor die uitreiking van nuwe regulasies en riglyne nie. Wat ons vandag skriftelik meedeel, kan môre verander – wees asseblief verdraagsaam, dit is buite ons beheer.

Ons het verskillende opnames gedoen om te verseker dat ons data beskikbaar het om te beplan in ons strewe om aan vereistes te voldoen, maar ook om te dien. Hoewel ons toestemming gevra het om siftingstoetse te doen per instruksie van die Departement, is die regulasie eenvoudig – GEEN siftingstoets GEEN toegang. Ons het egter die reëls nagekom deur toestemming te vra.

Daar is niks geheimsinnigs rondom die vrywarings- en kwytskeldingsvorm nie. Ons moet weet dat u bewus is van die risiko's wat almal van ons loop. Terwyl personeel dieselfde vrywarings- en kwytskeldingsvorm moet onderteken wanneer u kind terugkeer skool toe, geld dieselfde vir u en u kind. Ons het nooit gesê dis verpligtend nie en het slegs die boodskap oorgedra. Dit is eenvoudig – ons sal verantwoordelik optree en aan die vereistes voldoen, maar ons kan geen waarborge gee nie.

Daar is 'n magdom vrae en nie soveel antwoorde nie. Ouers vergelyk skole en dit sal maklik wees om mooi broodjies te bak en vir u te sê wat u graag wil hoor. Daar sal altyd ander wees wat beter doen of waarvan u meer sal hou. Ons het vrede daarmee, want ons kan nie daaraan aandag skenk nie en ons is ook nie in kompetisie met enige ander skool nie. Met alle respek – dit is u keuse. Ek kan u verseker dat ons kan en sal voldoen, MAAR ons sal dit nooit aan die groot klok hang of in 'n reklamestryd betrokke raak nie. Ons fokus op die kinders – geen handelsmerke vir gesigmaskers, skerms of wat ook al nie.

Ons het 'n prokureur aangestel wat ook 'n Professionele Beroepsgesondheids- en Veiligheidsbeampte is en wat by 'n internasionale maatskappy werk. Sy is ten volle gekwalifiseerd en daaraan gewoond om met hierdie soort aangeleenthede te werk. (Mev. E. Greeff -0728008649)

Indien u vind dat u nie die skool vertrou nie, kan u die Voldoeningsbeampte (Mev E. Greeff) skakel. Sy is 'n vriendelike, maar baie reguit dame. Ek wil nie haar goedkeuring vooruitloop nie en ek is tevrede met haar kwalifikasies en agtergrond. Soos sy duidelik gedurende opleiding aan die SBS genoem het, is dit nou die kinders en hoe hulle reageer en optree wat die pad vorentoe sal bepaal.

Die skool is verlede Vrydag en weer op Maandag 1 Junie 2020 besoek om te bepaal of ons aan die vereistes voldoen. Ons het ten volle voldoen en het 'n omvattende verslag in hierdie verband ontvang. Dit beteken dat ons aan die regulasies voldoen, MAAR ons glo dat ons steeds meer moet doen, daarom brei ons ons gesondheids- en veiligheidsmaatreëls uit en toets dit.

Ons moet seker maak dat ons op 'n daaglikse basis deurlopend aan die vereistes kan voldoen. Ons toets ons standaard-bedryfsprosedures en maatreëls wat ons in plek geplaas het – dit is tydrowend en ons bring veranderinge aan. Ons gekose COVID-19 Gesondheids- en Veiligheidskomitee sal probleme hanteer en met die Voldoeningsbeampte uitklaar soos ons vorentoe beweeg. Sy sal ons ook Vrydag tydens Gr 7-oriëntering besoek.

Ons sal 'n paar voorstellings op Facebook plaas sodat u kan sien wat ons doen en wat ons in plek geplaas het. Terwyl dit alles plaasvind, is ons steeds besig met beplanning en die voorsiening van afstandsonderrig aan almal.

Een groot probleem is die feit dat die DOV veronderstel is om PBT te voorsien, maar ons moet ook die volhoubaarheid van verskaffing toets, asook ons vermoë om die funksie oor te neem. Ná vele berigte aangaande die versuim van die DVO om PBT af te lewer, het ons gister die volgende ontvang -
45 herbruikbare gesigmaskers; 9 ongemerkte 25 liter-dromme saniteerder (geen data-staat) – ons moes dit toesluit, aangesien ons dit nie kan gebruik nie; 1 rol nywerheidshanddoekpapier

Dit is duidelik dat ons met hierdie voorraad nie die skool kan heropen nie. Die SBL het reeds ingetree om seker te maak dat ons aan die reinigingsvereistes voldoen, asook PBT vir die personeel om te werk.

Die SBL het egter weer vir die terugkeer van die Gr 7-leerlinge tot die redding gekom en ons sal twee herbruikbare gesigmaskers, elk met 3 filters, aan elke leerling verskaf. Daar sal genoegsame handreiniger met 70% alkoholbasis (D-Germ) in elke klas beskikbaar wees.

'n Gesigskerm, eie toiletpapier en papierhanddoek sal ook handig te pas kom vir elke leerling. 'n Klein bottel handreiniger (net vir ingeval) is meer as genoeg om te voldoen aan vereistes.

Permitte sal Vrydag aan Gr 7-leerlinge oorhandig word.

Ons bring graag die volgende onder u aandag

- Slegs 12 leerlinge per klas – 1,5 m sosiale afstand te alle tye.
- Alle gange is met 1,5 m sosiale afstand gemerk.
- Buite is 1,5 m sosiale afstand met rooi stene gemerk.
- Badkamers is voorsien van vloeibare seep, lopende water en 'n voetpomp-handontsmetmiddel.
- Opsioneel: papierhanddoeke en toiletrolle beskikbaar
- Slegs twee leerlinge op enige gegewe tyd saam in die badkamer.
- Onderwysers maak aantekening van tyd en persoon wat badkamer gebruik.
- Leerlinge ontvang gesteriliseerde kaartjies met 'n nommer vir die gebruik van 'n spesifieke fasiliteit.
- Afvalblikke in elke damestoilet – diens slegs deur Bidvest.

- Gesentraliseerde opgeleide skoonmaker buite gestasioneer om deurhandvatsel, kraan, toilet, wasbak en urinaal te reinig wanneer leerling uitkom.
- Gesentraliseerde opgeleide monitor ook buite gestasioneer om proses te monitor.
- Badkamers word daagliks ten volle gereinig en ontsmet.

DRINGEND - NUUT

Alhoewel ons versoek het dat ouers bly totdat hul kinders klaar getoets en toegelaat is, ervaar ons dat toetsing verkeersprobleme veroorsaak. Ons wil alle leerlinge binne 30 minute toelaat (07:30 – 08:00). Ons wil vriendelik versoek dat u so ver moontlik van Hek 3 en 14 parkeer sodra u kind afgelaai is, of u kan selfs huis toe of werk toe gaan. Ons sal u liewer skakel om u kind te kom haal. Ons het 'n "Afkoelstasie" ingerig, aangesien ons glo dat slegs temperatuur 'n probleem kan of behoort te wees. U moet dus altyd die vrae wat ons huis toe gestuur het, vra en antwoorde kry om dit as moontlikheid uit te skakel.

Terug skool toe: Opsie A tot C

Ek moet die volgende saak opklaar. Die nuusbrief en ander dokumentasie moet baie versigtig bestudeer word. Daar is 'n reuseverskil tussen Opsie B (afstandsonderrig) wat ons aanbied en tuisonderrig. Ons sal voortgaan met afstandsonderrig vir Gr 1 tot 6 en waar toegelaat vir Gr 7. Die DBO het egter die terugkeer van Gr 7-leerlinge verander.

Indien u Tuisonderrig verkies, moet u aansoek doen deur die dokument en regulasies van die Department te volg. U sal vir goedkeuring moet wag en dit is waar die brief van die SBL van toepassing is.

Indien u egter afstandsonderrig kies a.g.v. kinders met mediese uitdagings en wat na Sunridge wil terugkeer sodra hulle die uitdagings onder die knie het, moet 'n aansoek ook ingedien word. Die DBO wil hê dat alle Gr 7's so gou moontlik terugkeer skool toe.

U moet aansoek doen en die Departement sal dit goedkeur of afkeur. **'n Nuwe instruksie wat gister uitgereik is, vereis dat ek 'n vergadering belê** met ouers wat aansoek doen. 'n Verteenwoordiger van die SBL moet ook teenwoordig wees en ek moet 9 punte as deel van my aanbevelings behandel. Dit is ook my verantwoordelikheid om die aansoek na die DVO in te stuur. Ek sal alle ouers wat verkies om kinders tuis te hou, skakel. Ek versoek vriendelik dat ouers die vorm voltooi soos gevra, om my te help. (Slegs vir Gr 7-leerlinge op hierdie stadium).

Ons onderneem om steeds die diens te lewer wat ons nou doen, solank u kind nog by die skool ingeskryf is of totdat ons goedkeuring van die DVO ontvang. Dit is om u te ondersteun, aangesien u kind nog 'n leerling van Sunridge is terwyl ons wag vir die uitslag van u aansoek of miskien vir u kind om die mediese uitdagings die hoof te bied. Dit is niks om oor skaam te wees nie, dit is 'n realiteit en ons respekteer dit.

In die geval van ernstige gesondsheidsrisiko's of siektetoestande, versoek ons vriendelik dat u u kind tuis hou, die vorm voltooi en stawende dokumente voorsien.

Met 'n gewone siekte of COVID-19 simptome, moet u kind ook tuis bly en moet ons in kennis gestel word. Dit is vir kort tydperke. Indien u egter moet self-isoleer, moet u ons ook in kennis stel.

Ons sal u in kennis stel van ons planne om Opsie C te hanteer. Dit sal eers aanstaande week 'n aanvang neem.

Ons sal ondersteuning aanbied en ons vra om verskoning vir enige misverstand.

Skoolfooie

Dit is iets wat ek noem "die regte ding om te doen". Ek werk nie self hiermee nie, maar ek neem kennis van kommentaar en 'n paar aangeleenthede wat ouers in stryd met die wet kan bring. Om hierdie rede moet ek iets opklaar.

Ouers beweer dat die skool nie oor die afgelope twee maande 'n diens gelewer het nie – dit is eenvoudig nie waar nie, wat ook al die rede vir die stelling is, kan daar geregtelike implikasies wees met gevolge waaroor ek geen beheer het nie. Ek verwys slegs u kommunikasie terwyl ek van bewerings kennis neem.

Sover ek weet, behoort skoolfooie vir 2020 teen die einde van Februarie ten volle betaal te wees. Die SBL ondersteun ouers deur hulle toe te laat om dit oor 12 maande te betaal. Indien u egter finansiële uitdagings ervaar, moet u prosedure volg – kontak mev. Hart, sy sal u kan raad gee oor die wyse om aansoek te doen om kwytskelding van skoolfooie, indien van toepassing.

Indien u Sunridge wil verlaat, moet u asseblief die SBL deur info@sunridge.co.za in kennis stel en onthou dat dit verpligtend is om twee maande kennis te gee, soos bepaal in u ondertekende aansoekvorm. U kan vir skoolfooie aanspreeklik gehou word. Weereens volg ek net die beleid.

Om personeel sleg te sê en aantygings oor hul dienslewering te maak is nie "die regte ding om te doen" nie, want dit sal beslis geen uitwerking hê op u verpligte betaling van skoolfooie nie. Ek glo dat die personeel onder die omstandighede uitstekende diens lewer en ek respekteer hulle daarvoor. U mag dalk nie saamstem nie, en ek respekteer dit, maar ek respekteer dit nie as 'n paar ouers personeel slegsê en aantygings maak nie.

Ek bedank alle ouers wat skoolfooie betaal, reëlings tref en prosedures volg deur om kwytskelding aansoek te doen. Baie dankie daarvoor.
Dit groot vraag bly of skole gereed sal wees om op Maandag 8 Junie 2020 te heropen. Ons is gereed, maar ons lewe ook nie in 'n vakuum nie en indien ons dus 'n instruksie van die DVO ontvang om nie te heropen nie, is ons hande afgekap. Indien die huidige instruksie van krag bly, sal ons heropen.

Bly asseblief veilig.

Sonskyngroete

M DE VRIES
Skoolhoof

TAVCOR
SUZUKI

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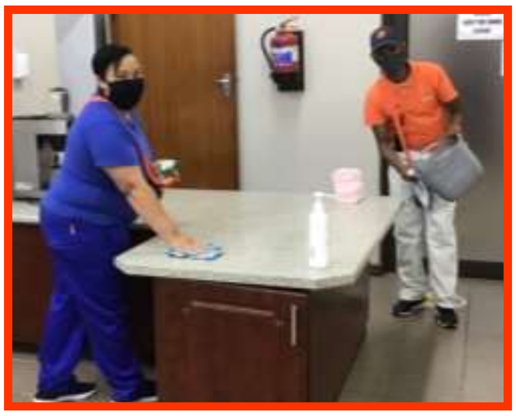
PHOTO GALLERY / FOTOGALERY



WOW! THANK YOU ~ BAIE DANKIE

The 2 items in the photos have been donated to the school by the community.

An electronic tap for hand sanitizing especially for the Foundation Phase and a walk through sanitizer for the school.

Die 2 artikels op die foto's is deur die gemeenskap aan die skool geskenk.

Dit is 'n elektroniese kraan vir handsanitasie vir ons Grondslagfase-leerlinge en 'n deurstap-saniteerder vir die skool.

#HeyThanks