



# CONTINUITY OF EDUCATION PLAN VERSION 3, AUGUST 2021



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## Guiding Principles

The COVID-19 pandemic is a very serious international health crisis and will likely continue to impact Tanzania, and the world for the foreseeable future. As we begin to plan for the school year, IST is committed to the development of our educational model to deliver high quality instruction, regardless of the external challenges that we might face due to COVID-19. Our planning for the future is based on the following guiding principles:

1. The health and safety of our community members will be our most important priority
2. Protocols and procedures will be developed with support of research, and in partnership with experts within and outside of our school community
3. All programs will be developed to support our ability to challenge, inspire and support our students.
4. On-site instruction is our preferred model for meeting our mission
5. Having multiple frameworks in place to support learning, regardless of transmission risk, is imperative to our ability to achieve our mission, vision and values
6. Communication during this period is extremely important to support a shared understanding throughout the school community and with external partners

## IST's Guiding Statements

IST has developed a set of Guiding Statements, on which all decisions within the school community are based. Regardless of the challenges presented by COVID-19, IST remains a school focused the realization of our Guiding Statement

### IST Mission

Challenging, inspiring and supporting all our students to fulfil their potential and improve the world..

### IST Vision

IST will be a global leader in the education of internationally-mobile young people. All students, regardless of their starting point, will think critically, achieve academically, and develop the wisdom to make good choices. They will show curiosity and creativity in addressing authentic problems, local and global. They will pursue their varied passions with enthusiasm, developing resilience, perseverance and confidence. Understanding the diversity of people and cultures, they will act kindly, fairly and responsibly. All members of the IST community will work together to fulfil this vision.





## IST Statement of Values

All members of the IST community are:

- **Responsible.** We act responsibly, positively and constructively, towards ourselves and other people. We learn from our mistakes and accept the consequences of our actions.
- **Inquiring.** We show curiosity, perseverance and open-mindedness in seeking to understand and solve problems. We persevere in the face of difficulties and we embrace the learning that comes through failure as well as the joy of success.
- **Compassionate.** We empathise with others and act with care, kindness and courage. In our interactions, we behave with patience, generosity and integrity.
- **Balanced.** We believe in a broad education for our students, seeing the value of participation in a varied curriculum.
- **Diverse.** We treasure the diversity within the IST community, using the rich opportunities for deeper understanding that come from our differences.



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## Models of Instruction at IST

As highlighted in this document, our goal is to ensure that IST is able to support continuous instruction over the course of the school year, regardless of the external challenges related to COVID-19. Therefore, IST is committed to the development of a levelled program, where our instructional program is determined by the level of risk which exists in the community. Throughout the course of the school year, IST will be assessing the risk of transmission in Dar es Salaam, and implementing our instructional programs appropriately to support the health and well being of the community.

### **Level One - on site instruction with very few limitations or amendments**

This would be very similar to our “normal school” programs and be offered when the community risk of transmission is considered to be low. This low risk of exposure would allow for the vast majority of school programs to be offered, allow for greater density on campus and in classrooms, and comprehensive after-school programs on and/or off campus. Level One Programs will still include a number of mitigations to limit transmission of COVID-19 on campus (eg. mask use, learning groups, restrictions on parent/visitor access)

### **Level Two - on-site instruction with significant restrictions and/or support from our distance learning program**

During periods where there is medium risk within the community, there would be mitigations in place which may limit IST’s ability to offer its full complement of programs. Social distancing would be expected on campus, which may limit campus access for students, student movement, class sizes, and significant program modifications. In order to support our holistic program, a combination of on-site instruction and Distance Learning may be required.

### **Level Three - Distance Learning program for all students**

During periods of high risk of transmission, campus will be closed and learning will move on-line using our Distance Learning platform.

## Implications of Each Model

As we navigate the external challenges associated with COVID-19, IST will need to be agile, so that we can respond and adjust to external health conditions and risks. It is likely that conditions will fluctuate around the world, and it is incumbent upon us to consider how we can manage various levels of risk to ensure that we continue to meet our mission.

Furthermore, as risk level fluctuates, it is likely that families in the community will continue to be impacted economically. As our program restrictions and limitations increase with elevated risk, economic uncertainty is also more likely to impact families in our community. Therefore, IST recognizes that financial assistance may be necessary when there is increased risk of transmission in Dar es Salaam.





The following table provides a review of safety and financial implications of the three instructional models levels under development at IST.

Model	Metrics for Decision Making	Financial Assistance
<b>Program Level One</b> On-site instruction with some limitations or amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance from external partners in the Dar es Salaam community (eg. CDC, Embassy partners, clinics/hospitals) indicating low risk</li> <li>Infection rates are extremely low</li> <li>Testing and health care is available in Dar es Salaam</li> <li>IST is confident in its ability to mitigate risk with very few limitations on programs or access to campus</li> </ul>	Limited assistance available through Partial Scholarship Program - Financial documentation required to support application
<b>Program Level Two</b> On-site instruction with significant restrictions and/or support from our Distance Learning program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance from external partners in the Dar es Salaam community (eg. CDC, Embassy partners, clinics/hospitals)</li> <li>Infection rates are relatively low and stable in Dar es Salaam</li> <li>Testing and health care is available in Dar es Salaam</li> <li>IST is confident in its ability to mitigate risk with enhanced procedures and protocols</li> </ul>	7.5% scholarship available for families in need (pro-rated for periods of Level Two program in excess of 2 weeks)
<b>Program Level Three</b> Distance Learning program for all students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Directives from the relevant local ministries</li> <li>Guidance from external partners in the Dar es Salaam community (eg. CDC, Embassy partners, clinics/hospitals)</li> <li>Increased infection rates in Dar es Salaam</li> <li>Confirmed infections in IST community</li> <li>Limited access to testing or health facilities in Dar es Salaam</li> <li>Limits on IST's ability to effectively mitigate risk and ensure safe conditions on campus</li> </ul>	15% scholarship available for families in need (pro-rated for periods of Level Three program in excess of 2 weeks)

*\* At the end of each quarter, it will be determined if Level 2 or 3 programs were offered, and if so, families will be asked to indicate if they would like to receive financial assistance.*



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## Risk Determines Model

IST will base the decision for the Model of Instruction on its assessment of risk. If risk is assessed as high, our campuses will be closed and we will move to Program Level Three. If risk is assessed as medium, we recognize that robust measures are necessary to mitigate against transmission on campus (Level Two Model). If risk is assessed as low, we are confident that conditions are appropriate to offer most programs, and welcome all students on campus with very few restrictions on our programs (Level One Model).

We will work with all parents, students, and staff who have specific needs or situations that might prevent them from accessing on-site instruction...

## Health and Safety

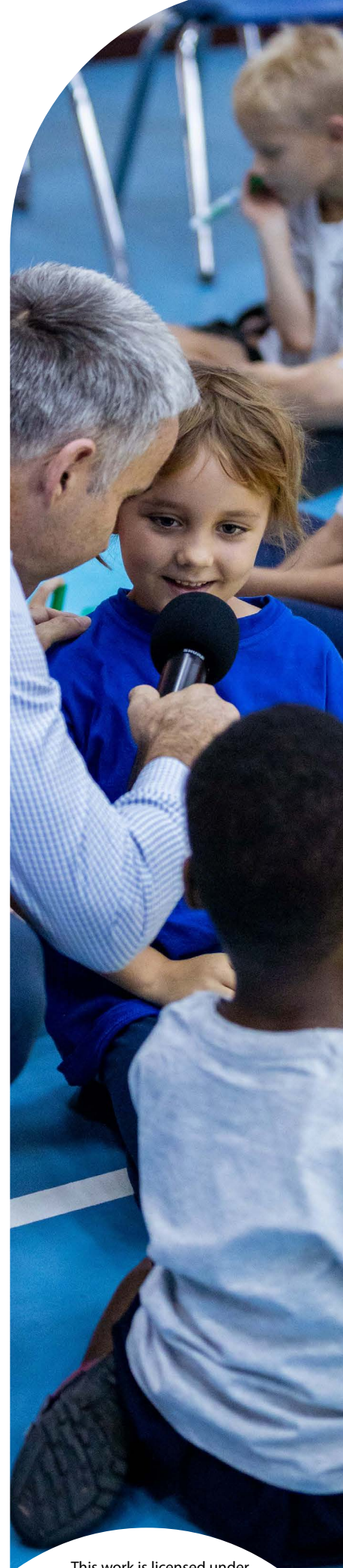
The challenges of COVID-19 are extraordinary, and it is apparent that every policy, protocol and practice needs review to ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are in place at IST. As we work towards supporting a safe environment for all community members, we are focusing on the following areas to support our overall objectives:

- Focus on the variables we can control
- Use validated resources and research to guide our understanding of COVID-19 and how to best prevent exposure on campus
- Remain adaptable, knowing that understanding of COVID-19 will evolve over time
- Seek ways to reduce risk of transmission, understanding that risk cannot be eliminated
- Identify and develop metrics to guide decisions increasing or limiting restrictions at IST
- Ensure procedures are flexible and can be implemented and sustained over time as necessary

## IST's Approach to Safety

The following strategies will be implemented when the school facility is open and on-site instruction is being provided.

- Temperature screenings
- Frequent hand washing
- Use of hand sanitizers
- Face masks
- Increased frequency of cleaning
- Limited campus access (parents, visitors, sub-contractors)
- Social distancing
- Small group instruction
- Limited gatherings of larger groups





These strategies will be implemented more strictly in periods of higher risk as determined by IST. Knowing that these protocols require practice, student orientation programs will take place at the start of the school year to help acclimatize students to the protocols and procedures in place to support a safe school environment.

## School and Home Partnership

A strong partnership between school and home is always important but even more critical in times of crisis. Coping with uncertainties is hard, and as we support students through such times, regular communication between home and school is vital. As the impact of COVID-19 changes, and as expert thinking and recommendations develop, we will continue to adapt our protocols and communicate with parents.

With Health and Safety being of the utmost priority, we will be partnering with all families to ensure a safe school environment. When children are on campus, families will be expected to:

- Conduct temperature checks and assess for illness before leaving home each day
- Ensure no child is sent to school when ill
- Isolate children who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 for 10 days
- Prevent children from accessing campus for 10 days after returning from travel
- Helping IST to perform contact tracing if a case of COVID-19 occurs within the community

In order for our campus to remain safe, it is extremely important that parents understand the procedures in place to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Schools are necessarily places where many people will gather, and risk does exist at school if cases of COVID-19 are present in the community. Ultimately, we are all dependent on each other to follow the guidelines for the safety of our entire community.

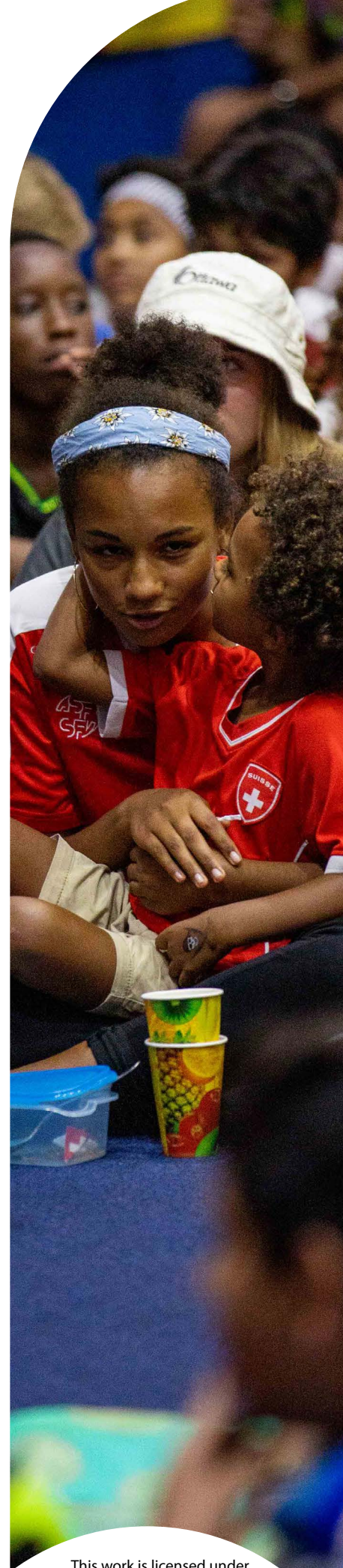
## Quarantine Protocol and Vaccine Exemptions

### 10 day quarantine period

Individuals arriving in Tanzania after International Travel will not be able to access IST facilities for 10 days

### Exemption to 10 day quarantine

Individuals who have completed a full course of vaccine treatments prior to their arrival on campus. Please note that individuals who receive a two dose vaccine can access campus immediately after receiving the second dose. If the vaccine is a 1 dose vaccine, the dose must be administered 2 weeks prior accessing campus or the normal quarantine period of 10 days will apply.





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