

## Thoughts on Scenario Planning for HIS

Dear HIS Community,

As we head into the final month of the school year, one of the biggest questions that we are asking ourselves, and that parents are likely wondering, is: **Will campus be open in August?**

Although we are unable to see what the future holds in the face of COVID-19 here in Zimbabwe and our region, I would like to share some of our thinking and planning at this point.

It may be surprising to learn that the plans for campus reopening are even more complex than moving to at-a-distance-learning. The reason for this is due to **balancing learning** with **safety and health** in real-time circumstances and in accordance with national guidelines.

The range of scenarios for the August start of year includes the following:

- A. Closed campus, continuation of at-a-distance-learning
- B. Partially open campus – hybrid approach between in-person learning and at-a-distance-learning. This is certainly the most complex with the most sub-scenarios.
- C. Fully open campus, also with sub-scenarios.

Prior to sharing highlights for each of the above, it is important to emphasise that **health and safety, as guided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC)** remains the foundational factor that will drive our decision-making. Please note that this is an overview that is subject to evolve as the situation changes.

Terms that are in *italics* are defined below.

	<b>A. Closed campus, continuation of at-a-distance-learning</b>	<b>B. Partially open campus – hybrid, with sub-scenarios.</b>	<b>C. Fully open campus, also with sub-scenarios.</b>
<b>Influencing factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Government lockdown; schools not permitted to open</li> <li>- High degree of local transmission of COVID19</li> <li>- No <i>data</i> evidence of <i>curve flattening</i> in Zimbabwe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significantly reduced reported number of new cases and <i>data</i> evidence of <i>curve flattening</i> in Zimbabwe</li> <li>- Guidance on local schools opening</li> <li>- Consultation with CDC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Few or no new cases over an extended period of time in Zimbabwe</li> <li>- Local schools are open</li> <li>- Consultation with CDC</li> </ul>
<b>Access to campus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Range from essential services to <i>managed access</i> for staff / faculty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Managed access</i> for staff/faculty</li> <li>- Consider <i>staggered, managed access</i> for students, possible selected grades</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing <i>managed access</i> for staff/faculty</li> <li>- Likely full and still <i>managed access</i> for students</li> <li>- <i>Managed access</i> for</li> </ul>

		- No / very limited access for parents	parents
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	- Strict access procedures - On-going wellbeing care through teachers, counselors, student and community initiatives	- Strict access procedures - Evidence of 21-day (MOHCC) quarantine/isolation for returning families - Communication regarding interaction guidelines - On-going wellbeing care through teachers, counselors, student and community initiatives - Plans for re-socialisation in unfamiliar conditions	- Clear criteria for school attendance - Evidence of isolation period for returning families - Interaction guidelines in place - On-going wellbeing care through teachers, counselors, student and community initiatives - Plans for re-socialisation in likely unfamiliar conditions
<b>Learning</b>	- At-a-distance-learning, constantly evolving and improving	- Hybrid learning, with possibility of reduced length of day on campus and/or staggered days. - Responsive to the possibility of “togglng”	- On-campus learning - Implementation of improved approaches to learning, evolving from AADL - Responsive to the possibility of “togglng”

**Definitions:**

- **Curve flattening:** Official data showing evidence of decline in peak of reported incidences
- **Data:** Officially reported information, corroborated ideally by two or more sources.
- **Hybrid:** HIS may implement a mixture of at-a-distance-learning with on-campus learning. Some families may opt to remain with at-a-distance learning.
- **Managed access:** Scheduled, under the direction of the School Nurse according to strict health protocols
- **Staggered Days:** HIS may have selected grade level attend school on campus on alternate day.
- **Toggle:** It may be necessary for HIS to revert to hybrid or full at-a-distance-learning as necessary. Frequent reverting back and forth between levels is not desirable and should be kept to a minimum.

Please note that this table is a relatively simplistic overview and does not reflect fully detailed planning. It is also important to remember that the escalation or de-escalation of these scenarios could be based on the presence or absence of a single factor or combination of factors, and that these may not occur in a linear manner.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and collaboration during these challenging times. It’s extremely fulfilling to see the resilience of our community members as we support each other.

We will continue to keep you informed of our plans as the actual situation evolves. We would expect to provide our community with a more concrete update on campus reopening by the middle of July.

Stay safe and stay well,  
Arden Tyoschin  
Director