



## EYS Gradual Reopening of Campus for Voluntary Activities Health and Safety Guidelines For Parents and Carers

The following information pertains to the health, safety, and wellbeing of students, teachers, staff and the Early Years School community as we welcome children on campus for **voluntary activities** in **November** and **December, 2020**.

***In addition to these measures, teachers will use their professional judgement at all times to ensure the health and safety of children, staff and the EYS community.***

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[The Nido de Aguilas Campus Reopening Manual and Protocols](#)  
[Nido COVID-19 Website](#)



## Operational

### Are EYS children expected to return to campus in November / December, 2020?

The EYS will welcome children on campus during November and December for **voluntary** activities. There is no expectation that children will attend on campus activities. Our goal is to provide opportunities for all families who feel comfortable to send their children to campus to meet the social emotional needs of children. We will continue to provide the core academic program online for all learners. We respect the different comfort levels of our community and trust families to make a decision about what is best for their family at this time.

### What is the bubble and tether method?

[Cohorting](#), also referred to as the Bubble and Tether model, as defined by The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

*"forms groups of students, and teachers or staff, that stay together throughout the school day to minimize exposure for students, teachers, and staff across the school environment."*

This model permits a loosening of the physical distance, shared materials and use of masks by students, although the recommendation is to encourage these measures, as much as possible.

Students and teachers in the EYS will be placed into class 'bubbles' and will stay together whilst on campus. These are the same classes students have been a part of since the commencement of the academic year. There will be no interaction between bubbles of children and teachers and there will remain a 1.8 metre distance at all times between bubbles.

This model has been advocated for by the CDC and recommended by Universidad de los Andes consultants as appropriate for Early Years School children.

### How will families with more than one child in the EYS be affected?

In the instance of a family with more than one child or a teacher with a child enrolled in the EYS, these cases have been evaluated on a case by case basis. Families affected are



expected to have increased vigilance with the monitoring of COVID-19 symptoms, temperature testing, increased sanitary measures, wearing of masks and keeping track of their child's interactions outside campus so that full contact tracing may be enabled should the need arise.

This situation will apply to a minority and families will be contacted on an individual basis. This protocol has been reviewed by Universidad de los Andes and the Nido Health Unit.

### **How will students be incorporated into class bubbles?**

The EYS return to campus is both **gradual** and **voluntary** and as families choose to send their child to on-campus activities, children will be incorporated into their existing class bubble with their homeroom teachers.

### **What is the schedule for voluntary on-campus activities?**

The following schedules have been created to allow for children to be welcomed on campus for **voluntary** social emotional, play based experiences, whilst continuing to deliver our core academic content online. This will ensure **equity** for all children, regardless of if a child attends on campus activities.

#### ***Pre-Kinder***

PK classes will be welcomed **on campus** from **9:00am - 11:00am** on **Monday** and **Tuesday** for **voluntary** social emotional, play based experiences.

**Synchronous** Distance Learning sessions will be offered on **Monday** and **Tuesday** via Zoom for those children who **do not** attend on campus activities. Content will be centered around social emotional, play based experiences.

All PK children will engage in our **online Distance Learning program** covering **core academic content** on **Wednesday, Thursday** and **Friday**.

**Asynchronous** lessons will be provided to all children via our Distance Learning platform, Seesaw. Asynchronous lessons will be uploaded on **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday** and will cover **core academic content**.

**Voluntary Afternoon Wellness sessions** for all students will be available online at **2:15pm** every **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday**.



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## ***Kindergarten 1***

K1 classes will be welcomed **on campus** from **9:00am - 11:00am** on **Thursday** and **Friday** for **voluntary** social emotional, play based experiences.

**Synchronous** Distance Learning sessions will be offered on **Thursday** and **Friday** via Zoom for those children who **do not** attend on campus activities. Content will be centred around social emotional, play based experiences.

All K1 children will engage in our **online Distance Learning program** covering **core academic content** on **Monday, Tuesday** and **Wednesday**.

**Asynchronous** lessons will be provided to all children via our Distance Learning platform, Seesaw. Asynchronous lessons will be uploaded on **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday** and will cover **core academic content**.

**Voluntary Afternoon Wellness sessions** will be available for all students online at **2:15pm** every **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday**.

Reentry schedules can be found [here](#).

## **Where will activities take place on campus?**

The CDC recommends increased outdoor ventilation and access to increased airflow to prevent the spread of COVID-19. In response to this, all EYS activities will take place outdoors until further notice. A tent will be provided for each class bubble to provide shade and an outdoor area for activities. All tents will be socially distanced and will be located near EYS facilities and bathrooms. In addition to this, teachers will also embrace the opportunities nature and the outdoors provide and will utilize the Nido grounds to provide appropriate play based experiences for children.

## **Protocols and Processes**

### **What is the expectation for the wearing of masks?**

Masks act as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people. This is called [source control](#).

At present, the protocol provided by the Ministry of Education for preschools states masks



are optional in this age group.

While masks are strongly encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the Nido Early Years School recognizes there are specific instances when wearing a mask may not be feasible. These instances include:

- Developmental age of younger students.
- Students with severe asthma or other breathing difficulties.
- Students with special educational or healthcare needs including sensory concerns or tactile sensitivity.

Based on the recommendation from Universidad de los Andes, the wearing of masks for children will be **mandatory**, however, we accept that some children may not be successful at doing this all of the time. This is in alignment with the CDC recommendations relating to the wearing of masks for young children.

The wearing of face masks for all teachers and staff is **mandatory**. The use of a face shield, protective apron or gloves is voluntary for staff.

### **How will children safely use the bathroom facilities?**

Children will be accompanied by an adult at all times whilst transitioning to and from, and while in the bathroom facilities. The supervising adult will manage the social distancing of children to the best of their ability, in accordance with the Nido Health and Safety guidelines. Adults will be able to assist children whilst in the bathroom, if necessary.

### **How will children's bathrooms remain clean and sanitary whilst in use?**

Additional cleaning personnel will be assigned exclusively to EYS bathrooms to ensure ongoing cleaning and sanitization during the time students are on campus. Janitors will receive training about Covid considerations to ensure the safety of children.

### **When might children be taken indoors into EYS classrooms?**

Due to the age and needs of children, there may be a time when it is necessary for adults to take children indoors, into their classroom. In this event, adults will follow the recommendation of Universidad de los Andes with the amount of people inside an indoor classroom space not exceeding 12 people, including teachers. Whilst indoors, natural ventilation will be increased, if possible.



### **How will we ensure child safety whilst moving around campus?**

Teachers will use their professional judgement and maintain a social distance of 1.8 metres at all times from other adults and bubbles of children.

### **How will members of the same bubble interact with one another?**

The use of the Bubble and Tether model allows for decreased restrictions for members of the same bubble. This is in alignment with the needs of Early Years school children and their developmental and social and emotional needs.

Teachers can engage with, assist, comfort and embrace children and will use their professional judgement to reduce contact with children, when appropriate.

Children are free to engage in play with other children in their bubble. Children can share materials and teachers will use their professional judgement to favour activities that promote distancing. Children **are not** required to keep a social distance of 1.8 metres from children in the same bubble.

### **How will teachers manage the use of shared objects?**

The following guidelines will be followed when organizing shared materials:

- Materials accessible to children will be controlled by classroom teachers.
- Teachers will ensure adequate supplies of materials are available to minimize sharing of high touch objects, to the extent possible.
- Toys that are easily cleaned will be prioritized.
- Fabric materials will be avoided (teddy bears, stuffed toys etc.)
- Single-use materials will be used and then disposed of (clay, playdough).
- At the conclusion of each day, all materials will be cleaned and sanitized.

### **Can students use the EYS playground?**

The Early Years School playground will be closed for student use until further notice.



## **Can children consume food whilst on campus?**

Due to the short time children will be on campus (two hours) children will not be provided with a designated eating break. We ask that parents ensure their child is well fed prior to bringing them on campus.

In the event that a child does become hungry whilst on campus, children are permitted to consume a small snack. An example may be a muesli bar or piece of fruit. Any food items should come to school in a zip lock bag or container with the child's name. Children are permitted to bring a water bottle that is clearly labeled with their name and consume water as necessary.

Enhanced clearing and sanitization measures will take place should a child consume food. This will include:

- The cleaning (wiping down) of surfaces after eating.
- Washing of hands prior to and after eating.

## **How will we ensure children's safety during pick up and drop off?**

### *Drop off:*

We understand that drop off is a time when young children can experience separation struggles and this can be cause for concern. In a situation where a child is experiencing difficulty separating from their parent, we ask that parents use their own judgement to decide if their child will engage in on campus activities that day.

All EYS children are to be dropped off at the Nido front gate. At the school gate, families will be met by their homeroom teacher and the Sanitary Control team who will conduct temperature control, assist with social distancing, the wearing of masks and hand sanitization. When everyone in the class bubble is present and Sanitary Control is complete, children will walk with their teacher to their tent. Parents are not permitted to pass the sanitisation station and will not be able to accompany their child on campus at this time.

Teachers will be present at the front gate ready to commence receiving children from 8:50am.

### *Pick up:*

At the conclusion of on-campus activities, children will walk as a class group to their designated area at the front of the school for collection. Once teachers see and acknowledge parents/carers, they will release the child into their care. This will take place



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outside sanitary control at the front gate.

***Due to the fact that staff must wait for all children at drop off and pick up, we request that all parents be mindful of being on time.***

### **Will parent helpers be used to assist classroom bubbles?**

Parent helpers will be used on campus on specific days preorganized by the classroom teacher. Parent helpers will become part of their class bubble and can act as another set of hands to assist with supervision. Parent helpers will be provided the necessary training to prepare them to work with children. Parents of twins can not volunteer due to cross contamination. Parents can only volunteer to work in their child's bubble. Teachers will facilitate the scheduling of parent helpers. Parent helpers will be chosen using random selection to ensure equity.

### **Will parents be required to sign a parent agreement prior to their child returning to campus?**

Parents will be required to sign a [Parent Community Health and Safety Agreement](#) prior to their child returning to campus, available on the School Forms Online Platform.

### **How will teachers respond if they suspect a child is unwell?**

If a child is suspected of or presents symptoms of being unwell, teachers will inform the Nido Health Unit.

The Nido Health Unit will immediately send home all students with respiratory symptoms and a temperature over 37.5°C. Children will need to be checked by a doctor in order to return to campus.

For more information on school wide COVID-19 health protocols, please access [Campus Reopening Manual and Protocols](#). You may also visit our [website](#) for more information, communications and resources.



## **Have EYS faculty received training in health and safety measures to ensure student safety?**

All EYS faculty have been provided training on health and safety protocols by Universidad de los Andes and the Nido Health Unit to ensure they are well equipped to manage the health and safety of children, staff and the EYS community.

## **What happens if a teacher is unable to come on campus ?**

If a teacher is unable to come on campus due to illness (excluding COVID) or for personal reasons, the following process will occur:

### *Short term absence on campus:*

If a teacher is unable to come on campus, the affected class will stay at home and complete online Distance Learning as per their normal class Distance Learning schedule. Families will be informed immediately via email communication.

### *Long term absence:*

If a teacher is unable to come on campus for an extended period of time, the teacher in question will be replaced by one of our EYS permanent substitute teachers and on-campus sessions will continue as scheduled.

## **What should children wear on campus?**

Children will be required to wear their school uniform when on campus. We understand, however, that some families may not have yet purchased a school uniform and will require a short transition period. Uniforms can be purchased through the NPA store.

<https://www.npastore.cl/>

## **What items should be brought on campus?**

At this time, only essential items should be brought on campus by children. These items should include:

- Spare mask
- Hat (sunscreen applied at home)
- Drink bottle clearly labeled with the child's name.
- Small snack (if necessary)
- Spare change of clothes.
- Toys are not encouraged.



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## What will happen in the event a case of COVID-19 is confirmed in the EYS?

The protocol given by the **Ministry of Education** states that when one teacher or two or more students are confirmed positive, contact tracing is conducted and either the bubble, division or campus will close. Those affected will commence home quarantine for 14 days. The Nido Health Unit will also evaluate case by case to take into consideration any close contact to other bubbles and siblings.

## Teaching and Learning

### How will the EYS Distance Learning program be delivered in November and December?

The EYS **core academic content** will continue to be delivered online using synchronous and asynchronous sessions with a child's homeroom teachers. This will ensure equity for all children, regardless of if a child attends on campus activities.

Children will be welcomed on campus for **voluntary, play based** experiences and to attend to children's **social and emotional needs**.

For more information, please view [class schedules](#).

### What is the impact of teacher preparation time on student learning?

In order for EYS teachers to prepare classroom environments and materials for children's return, on **Thursday 12th** and **Friday 13th November** only asynchronous lessons will be provided. Afternoon wellness sessions will not occur on these dates.

Last updated: November 12, 2020