

## **COMMITMENT TO AIR QUALITY**

### **PURPOSE**

Lancers International School takes air pollution very seriously and has over the years invested in providing a safe and healthy environment for our students, including long-term sustainable solutions that ensure clean air in our campus.

LIS guidelines and procedures deal with poor air quality and is openly communicated to the school community over the years. These guidelines and procedures are actively monitored and adjusted to ensure clean air across campus. These guidelines are taken from a number of sources, but primarily from the Central Pollution Control Board of India and from the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research, Ministry of Earth and Science, Govt. of India.

### **SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT**

Air filtration within the school building is strategically located, aimed at ensuring the best possible air quality for our learning environments. LIS can ensure through a customised air filtration system that internal air quality remains well below standards with regards to 2.5 particulate and other pollutants even when the external air quality is poor.

Over the years various measures have been taken to ensure the school environment is safe and healthy for our students. Some of the measure include but are not limited are: centralised air purification plant (with HEPA filters), access controls on all entry/exits of the school building, vertical gardens and many more. In 2018, additional air purifiers from Dyson (one of the top global companies to be working in this field) were added to our corridors. The staff of Dyson are responsible for maintaining and updating these machines thought out the school campus. Along with their team, our in-house staff of engineers are trained to maintain all air systems, air handling units and filters.

Built-in systems within our building provide clean and safe air, eliminating the need for individual air purifiers in each classroom. While some worry because they cannot see the air purifying system, it is works well in the background ensuring that our school community are safe and cared for as they learn in their classrooms.

### **DAILY MONITORING OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL AIR QUALITY**

Lancers International School tracks air quality throughout the day by reference to our own AQI monitor in school, the live AQI reading from Air Quality station along Golf Course Road Gurgaon using the live Air Quality Index (AQI) feed from Vikas Sadan Gurgaon reading on this site: <http://aqicn.org/city/india/gurgaon/vikas-sadan-gurgaon/>.

On the other hand, Indoor Air Quality readings will be taken at 7.30 am and 11.30 am on each school day. Readings are taken for AQI (Air Quality Index) and PM 2.5 (the indicator for the most harmful particles). The readings will be taken by a member of the administration team. Decisions regarding appropriate actions for each day are taken by the Primary Principal.

## **ACTION TAKEN AFTER READINGS**

The school community refers to colour coded signs on the football field and follow the following responses:

- I. Start Up to Grade 5 Response
  1. Our Primary School response to the AQI is slightly more restrictive than that for Senior Schools because medical evidence indicates that very young children are more vulnerable to the effects of particulate pollution than older children and adults.
  2. Code Red: When the AQI is over 200, all Early Years students will be kept indoors.
  3. Code Yellow: Where the AQI is between 150 and 199, consideration will be given to allowing the children a shortened period of outdoor play, not to exceed 15 minutes.
  4. Students are reminded to drink plenty of water to combat the effects of pollution.
  
- II. Grades 6 to 12 Response
  1. Code Red: The threshold for Grades 1 – 12 students is 250.
  2. Code Yellow: Where the AQI is between 200 and 249, consideration will be given to allowing students a shortened period of outdoor play, not to exceed 20 minutes.
  3. Students are reminded to drink plenty of water to combat the effects of pollution.
  
- III. Students with Respiratory Problems (Special consideration)
  1. Thresholds for students with respiratory problems are 150 for Early Years and 200 for Grades 1 – 12.
  2. It is therefore absolutely crucial that parents inform the classroom teacher or homeroom teachers if their children have respiratory problems, and that parents reiterate these thresholds with their children.
  
- IV. Parent Community
  1. Parents are expected to continue to show commitment to Air Quality at home.
  2. Students are highly recommended to use air pollution masks to and from school and home.

## **AIR QUALITY POLICY**

As new information on Air Quality in Delhi NCR is becoming available, our policy is subject to change to ensure that we are protecting our students in the most appropriate manner.

### Co-Curricular Activities

Activities will not be cancelled and alternative activities will be put in place or the venues changed.

### Educational Visits

Our standard air quality reading will be taken prior to any school educational visit. If the reading is over 200 the school office will make the decision to postpone the trip. The school office will make the necessary arrangements and communicate directly with parents of the students on the visit.

### Weekend Sports

Students will always travel to school regardless of the reading prior to setting off. When air quality is poor, alternative arrangements will be planned by the school office.

Coaching staff will take a reading from air quality monitors to determine whether the sport practice should be modified or postponed.

### Information Sessions

Information Campaign organised by students run throughout the academic year. Assemblies would educate the staff and students to take prevent and take measures during this period.