

Resilient LTCP

With the context of recent events the AIAS recognizes that while in times of crisis it is difficult to keep a focus on policies such as the LTCP, but we also know that in these times it is more important than ever to strive toward a positive and constructive educational culture. Dedication to cultivating positive culture and relationships is the necessary platform for high-quality education regardless of whether these policies exist in writing or not, so it is therefore best practice to ensure that Learning & Teaching Culture Policies, which ensure the existence of this intent, are written in a manner that enables them to stay resilient and useful under difficult circumstances. Here are some tips on points to cover to ensure resilience in your school's policy:

- **Equity in Access:** Not everyone has the same access to resources like the internet. Schools should ensure that they are considering equitable access and opportunities to students in different situations. All members of the school community should be prepared to engage in multiple modes of delivering information and instruction.
- **Health & Wellness:** Schools should maintain focus on the health of their students and staff even in times of difficulty, like when working and learning remotely is necessary. Continuing healthy practices and accommodating situations such as students being in different time zones are necessary to consider and plan for early on. Stewardship and space management also fall under the topic of maintaining a healthy environment.
- **Culture of Respect:** Maintaining respectful relationships goes a long way toward keeping positive culture resilient. Respecting the diversity, personal beliefs and health needs of others is a must at all times, but becomes even more necessary when the world is changing. Respectful practices are often as simple as wearing a mask to protect the health of those around you, or agreeing to disagree when a discussion is becoming too heated.
- **Redefining & Reinterpretation:** Every major topic or section in a Learning & Teaching Culture Policy has a direct impact on quality of culture and education, and should therefore be constantly considered, even in times of crisis or change. In times like these schools should be prepared to revisit each of these topics and, if necessary, reinterpret them so that they are better suited to maintaining positive culture in the situation at hand.
- **Dedication to Positive Culture:** The most important consideration when ensuring the resilience of your school's Learning & Teaching Culture is that students, faculty and administration should all remain dedicated to the maintenance of a positive educational culture. In times such as these it becomes not less, but more important to actively work toward positive culture. Persistence and clear communication are basic necessities in this effort, and schools should be prepared to revisit and openly discuss their policies regularly, not as an insurance policy but as an effort to move toward a strong culture that enhances the value of education and helps create respectful, well-rounded and culturally intelligent graduates and professionals.