

Dear parent and carers,

As promised, I am writing with additional information about the return of students to our school. First, a reminder about the dates for our phased return.

<b>Commencing 25 October (Week 4)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early childhood centres (ECEC)</li> <li>• Preschool and kindergarten</li> <li>• Years 1 and 2</li> <li>• Year 6</li> <li>• Years 9 and 10</li> <li>• Out of school hours care (OSHC)</li> </ul>
<b>Commencing 1 November (Week 5)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Years 3, 4 and 5</li> <li>• Years 7 and 8</li> </ul>
<i>From weeks 1 to 4 of term, onsite supervision and care continues to be available for vulnerable children and young people whose parents are essential workers.</i>	

Drawing on national and local health advice we have developed a return to school plan which has three key priorities:

- the health and safety of staff and young people,
- the mental and emotional well-being of students and staff, and
- ensuring continuity of learning.

Below is an outline of [ACT Health Guidelines](#) that schools are required to implement to ensure effective COVID-19 measures are in place.

<b>Use of Check in CBR app</b>	All staff and visitors must check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. <b>Parents and carers cannot enter school grounds except for an essential reason.</b> Visitors must call to make an appointment, or in advance of attendance. All visitors must report to the front office.
<b>Student illness</b>	Staff and students who are unwell are not able to attend school. Students who present unwell will be required to go home.
<b>Hygiene</b>	Schools will maintain and promote appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene practices. Students will need to wash hands and use hand sanitisers throughout the day. Students will not be allowed to share food or drink.

<b>Masks</b>	<p>Staff, visitors and students* in years 7-12 must wear a face mask on campus. Students in years 3-6 are encouraged to wear a mask if they are comfortable doing so. Students in Preschool to year 2 are not required to wear a mask. Masks may not be suitable for students with a disability or medical condition and schools will make allowances for those students not to wear masks.</p> <p><i>* Students will be required to wear their personal masks. Masks will be available at school for those who require them. Disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i></p>
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	<p>Physical distancing between children and young people is not always possible, particularly in single classrooms and school environments. It is however important for limiting the transmission of COVID 19. To promote physical distancing we may adjust learning programs, breaktimes, our timetable as well as pick up and drop off arrangements. More specific information about what this means for your child is included below.</p>
<b>Environmental cleaning</b>	<p>Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch services, frequently used objects, and play equipment.</p>
<b>Ventilation</b>	<p>All schools have been assessed to increase fresh air circulation and this may involve changes to ventilation, modified HVAC system settings and maximising the use of outdoor learning spaces.</p>
<b>Managing suspected cases</b>	<p>We are prepared to respond to a positive COVID-19 case on campus, should the need arise. ACT Health will provide direction to the school and community, which may result in a full or partial school closure. A student who presents with symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated with suitable supervision, and parents will be required to collect their child. Symptomatic students will be required to wear a mask.</p>
<b>Will schools have routine testing for COVID-19?</b>	<p>Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should get tested immediately. ACT Health is not recommending routine COVID-19 testing of children, young people or staff using rapid antigen testing.</p>
<b>Wellbeing supports</b>	<p>Wellbeing and learning supports, such as face to face appointments with the school psychologist or access to a Learning Support Assistant, will recommence with the return to school.</p> <p>For parents and carers of students with a medical vulnerability: if you wish the school to make reasonable adjustments for the safe return of your child, you must consult a GP and provide medical advice to that effect. Where adjustments can't be made, the school will support your child to learn from home.</p>

To further support the ACT Health Guidelines our school is making the following adjustments.

<p><b>Drop off and pick up</b></p>	<p>Walking/Riding to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary students who are walking or riding to school will enter and exit through the top black gates (near the blue playground).</li> <li>- High school students who are walking or riding home will enter and exit through the bottom car park (on Hardwick Cres)</li> <li>- If high school students walk/ride home with a younger sibling, they can collect their sibling and enter/exit through the primary exit at the top of the school.</li> </ul> <p>Pickup/Drop off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primary students who are being dropped off and picked up will enter through the red gates at the front of school.</li> <li>- High school students who are being dropped off and picked up will do so through the gates off Harwick Crescent The car park across the road can also be used for this purpose.</li> </ul> <p>Preschool parents can park in the top gravel carpark and walk their child down to the gates to preschool (on the car park side outside of preschool).</p> <p><b>More detailed information including maps on drop off and pick up procedures and spaces located <a href="#">here</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Hygiene routines</b></p>	<p>Hand sanitisers and antibacterial wipes will be located at the entry to each classroom.</p> <p>Students will wash hands with soap and warm water on arrival to school, before and after eating and after using the bathroom. Our toilet blocks have been allocated to separate cohorts.</p> <p><b>Further information will be found at the Hygiene link <a href="#">here</a>.</b></p>

<p><b>Teaching and learning</b></p>	<p>Our new cohorting will be in the following sectors, based on buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preschool</li> <li>- Kindergarten to Year 2</li> <li>- Years 3 – 5</li> <li>- Years 6 – 8</li> <li>- Years 9 – 10</li> </ul> <p>In the primary school, the specialists' programs have been split across the buildings. <b>Specific details on the modified specialist's programs can be found in the Term Overviews in week 4.</b></p> <p>Entry and exit to specialist programs in High School have been modified to ensure COVID compliance of cohort separation. All other subjects will be taught in home room classrooms to minimise movement.</p> <p>Band and music lessons will be held outside, in the outdoor classroom located in the amphitheatre near building 2. Band instruments for both year 5 and 6 will be stored in the Music room in building 2. <b>A note will be sent home to band families with further information in week 4</b></p> <p><b>Details of the program will be on the learning programs page <a href="#">here</a>.</b></p>																																															
<p><b>Break times</b></p>	<p>We have changed our break time in both primary and high school to minimise the mixing of different cohorts (see table below)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="491 1061 1449 1536"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Kindergarten, Year 1 &amp; 2</th> <th>Years 3, 4 &amp; 5</th> <th>Preschool</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Morning session</td> <td>9:00 am– 10:30 am</td> <td>9:00 am – 11:15 am</td> <td rowspan="6">Normal schedule – no changes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eating Time</td> <td>10:30 am– 10:45 am</td> <td>11:15 am – 11:30 am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Break 1</td> <td>10:45 am – 11:15 am</td> <td>11:30 am – 12:00 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middle session</td> <td>11:15 am – 1:00pm</td> <td>12:00 pm – 1:45 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Break 2</td> <td>1:00 pm – 1:30pm</td> <td>1:45 pm – 2:15pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Afternoon session</td> <td>1:30pm – 3:00pm (or 2:55 for students needing car pickup)</td> <td>2:15 pm – 3:00 pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="491 1608 1449 2011"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Year 6 –8</th> <th>Years 9-10</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Home Group</td> <td>8.55 am - 9.10 am</td> <td>8.55 am - 9.10 am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lesson 1</td> <td>9.10 am - 10.05 am</td> <td>9.10 am - 10.05 am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lesson 2</td> <td>10.05 am - 11.00 am</td> <td>10.05 am - 11.00 am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Break 1 / LINK</td> <td>11.00 am - 11.30 am (Break 1)</td> <td>11.00 am - 11.30 am (LINK)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LINK / Break 1</td> <td>11.30 am - 12.00 pm (LINK)</td> <td>11.30 am - 12.00 pm (Break 1)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lesson 3</td> <td>12.00 pm - 12.50 pm</td> <td>12.00 pm - 12.50 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lesson 4</td> <td>12.50 pm - 1.40 pm</td> <td>12.50 pm - 1.40 pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Kindergarten, Year 1 & 2	Years 3, 4 & 5	Preschool	Morning session	9:00 am– 10:30 am	9:00 am – 11:15 am	Normal schedule – no changes	Eating Time	10:30 am– 10:45 am	11:15 am – 11:30 am	Break 1	10:45 am – 11:15 am	11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Middle session	11:15 am – 1:00pm	12:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Break 2	1:00 pm – 1:30pm	1:45 pm – 2:15pm	Afternoon session	1:30pm – 3:00pm (or 2:55 for students needing car pickup)	2:15 pm – 3:00 pm		Year 6 –8	Years 9-10	Home Group	8.55 am - 9.10 am	8.55 am - 9.10 am	Lesson 1	9.10 am - 10.05 am	9.10 am - 10.05 am	Lesson 2	10.05 am - 11.00 am	10.05 am - 11.00 am	Break 1 / LINK	11.00 am - 11.30 am (Break 1)	11.00 am - 11.30 am (LINK)	LINK / Break 1	11.30 am - 12.00 pm (LINK)	11.30 am - 12.00 pm (Break 1)	Lesson 3	12.00 pm - 12.50 pm	12.00 pm - 12.50 pm	Lesson 4	12.50 pm - 1.40 pm	12.50 pm - 1.40 pm
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	Break 2 (Different allocated spaces)	1.40 pm - 2.00 pm	1.40 pm - 2.00 pm
	Lesson 5	2.00 pm - 3.00 pm	2.00 pm - 2.55 pm
	<p>Break clubs have been cancelled due to limitations around cohort groups.</p> <p><b>Further details on breaks (including modified areas and wet weather provisions) can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</b></p>		
<b>Before and After School Care</b>	<p>When dropping off in the morning, parents are to call the Pink Office phone and a staff member will meet them at the red gate at the front of the school. In the afternoon for pickup, the same procedure will occur, please call the Pink Office phone and meet your child at the red gates. The phone number for the Pink Office phone is 0420535483.</p>		
<b>Canteen</b>	<p>There will be no over the counter service at the canteen. Canteen food will only be available by pre-ordering using the school flexischools account. Look up <a href="https://www.flexischools.com.au/">https://www.flexischools.com.au/</a> to create an account. Primary students will have their food delivered at the start of Break 1. Secondary (6-10) School students can access the pre-ordered canteen food at the Canteen windows during Break 1. There is no service from the canteen for any students at Break 2</p>		

We will continue to review and adjust these measures based on the most up to date advice from ACT Health.

Remember, all adults and children aged 12 years and above are eligible for vaccination. If your child is eligible but not yet vaccinated, we encourage you to book them in by calling the COVID-19 vaccination line on 5124 7700 daily between 7am-7pm. Bookings can also be made with some [GP clinics and pharmacies](#).

We understand that there has been considerable change and uncertainty for our students during the pandemic, and as we transition back to school. I'd remind you that you and your child can book an appointment with our Telehealth Support Service on 02 6205 1559 between 9.00am and 4.30pm weekdays. With the return to school, your child will also be able to organise face to face sessions with the school psychologist.

For more information about the return to schools, I'd recommend visiting [the Education Directorate's website](#).

You can keep up to date with the latest health information, advice and resources on the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and understanding as we return to face-to-face schooling.

We look forward to seeing all our students back at school.

My regards,

Paul Branson | Principal