



20 August 2020

TERM 3 UPDATED COVID RESTRICTIONS

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Below is a list of Term 3 learning guidelines for school staff:

- Schools continue to be safe and operations are in line with AHPPC and NSW Health guidelines.
- All students should be learning on-campus unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.
- Existing infection control protocols at schools, and new health and safety measures put in place will help maintain the health and safety of students and staff.
- All activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate in a living with COVID-19 environment.
- Schools continue to monitor and plan for any changes in local circumstances that may arise, including changes in health advice or local restrictions.

Guidance for community use and visitors to the school

- Principals must ensure that all users of school facilities and visitors to the school site are aware of the physical distancing, health and hygiene measures required by the school, and receive written confirmation of this understanding.
- Parents and carers who need to be on site for canteen or uniform shop purposes must sign the visitor acknowledgement form.
- Non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events. This includes parents and carers except for face-to-face parent/teacher meetings that are essential (e.g. to discuss disciplinary or other welfare matters).
- SRE/SEE volunteers may attend. Classes are restricted to a maximum of 50 for no longer than one hour with a preference for it to be held outside. No singing or chanting is allowed.
- P&C meetings should continue on-line only. P&C social events or functions are not permitted.
- Community use of school facilities may continue. The organiser remains responsible for compliance with distancing and hygiene requirements aligned with the health advice of the day. All community user groups must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place.

Safety and hygiene

- Vigilance in ensuring that staff and students do not attend school or work if they are unwell
- Students absent or sent home due to flu like symptoms need to be tested
- Staff and students must not return to school or work until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptoms free
- Schools must sight the negative COVID-19 test result prior to allowing students and staff to return to school
- Schools should limit activities to year groups whenever possible.

Physical distancing is not required for students

Physical distancing of children in schools is not required by the AHPPC guidelines. Schools should restrict activities to year groups where possible to limit close contacts to those within year groups. Schools should avoid activities where students visit other school sites to the small number of activities detailed within these guidelines.

Physical distancing requirements remain for adults

Schools should limit the number of staff in common spaces and staffrooms and avoid shared items as much as possible.

Non-essential visitors to schools must not be allowed.

Schools should ensure school pick up and drop off arrangements enable parents to physically distance from one another and from staff. Schools should consider strategies to avoid large congregations during school pick up and drop offs.

Wearing face masks and temperature screening

Schools are required to follow the AHPPC guidelines. The guidelines do not require schools to conduct widespread temperature screening or for anyone to wear masks.

Staff members and students who feel strongly about wearing a mask should be accommodated by the school.

Hygiene measures

Schools must continue to promote and encourage regular washing of hands, exclusion of any staff and students who are unwell, avoiding the sharing of food and personal items and cleaning of any shared items such as musical instruments, learning and sporting equipment between uses.

Students should continue to bring water bottles from home to fill at water bubblers rather than drink directly from the bubbler.

School operations

- Students to stay within their relevant cohort, year group or stage for all learning activities
- Schools must not travel outside of their local community area or zone for all interschool activities
- Only external providers essential to the delivery of curriculum may continue.
- Professional learning should be online
- Only providers that are essential to the delivery of curriculum can continue to provide services and programs until further notice.
- Parents/carers and other non-essential visitors are not allowed on the school site.

School Activities

- Schools must not travel outside of their local community area or zone for all interschool activities
- Some group activities such as choirs, chanting and the use of wind instruments in a group setting are not permitted.

Approved activities without change in our schools

- Library access ensuring supervisors/staff maintain physical distancing
- School assemblies (limited to 15 minutes and no external visitors)
- Allied health providers, wellbeing and case management professionals (including NDIS suppliers and health programs such as student vaccination programs and dental health programs)
- Official visitors and dignitaries (consistent with current protocols)
- School photos (Staff photos can be taken where physical distancing requirements are able to be met).

Activities on hold until further notice

The following activities remain on hold for the remainder of Term 3.

- Kindergarten orientation
- School camps
- Excursions (other than field trips explained above)
- Interstate excursions
- International excursions (cancelled until further notice)
- School or community run playgroups
- Face to face professional learning for staff. Refer to the Physical distancing guidelines.
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events
- Parent and carer volunteers – e.g. parent reading helpers (note: canteen and uniform shop volunteers are permitted)
- School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school BBQs, large parent information evenings, and large on-site cultural events.
- Interschool sport, drama, debating and other events that are not within the local community or zone including gala days and regional sporting carnivals.

Attendance and roll marking

All students should be either:

- at school
- at home because they are currently unwell
- at home due to self-isolation requirements
- at home because they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition (or in limited cases where a family member has an ongoing medical condition).

We appreciate you taking the time to read and adhere to this information provided by the Department of Education for the safety of your children, staff and the broader community.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Kathy Browne
Principal