



13/10/2021

Roadmap of Return to School

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all back into the swing of learning from home for the beginning of Term 4. This term will see a lot of changes as we gradually transition back to face-to-face learning as the Premier announced in the adjusted return to school plan last week.

Below are the key dates and details to help prepare you and your family for the return, including some changes in the staged return to school.

Return to School Roadmap

During Term 4, students will return to school in a staged approach, with no mingling or on-site activities. In schools like ours where we have been learning from home for extended periods of time, students will return to face-to-face learning in line with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe procedures on school sites in the following order:

- from 18 October – Kindergarten, Year 1
- from 25 October – all remaining year groups.

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent information on our [Advice for families page](#).

For those families who have siblings across year groups, I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back at school. But to reiterate the message above – we need this time to prepare our school and staff for having all our students back, so it's essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

Student Drop offs

9.15am - Year 3-6 students enter and wait in their designated areas.

Students may enter through Concord Rd or Queen St with a 'kiss and wave at gate'. Unfortunately, no parent or carer can enter our site, as per the DoE health regulations.

9.25am - Years K-2 students enter and wait in their designated areas.

Students may enter through Concord Rd or Queen St with a 'kiss and wave at gate'. Unfortunately, no parent or carer can enter our site, as per the DoE health regulations.

We strongly encourage students to arrive at or close to the above times to allow for a staggered entry to school. This morning period is not for play or mingling. Classroom teachers will allow additional time during the day for socialisation with friends.

Family discussion point: please tell your child that they will find out about their 'wait space' when they arrive at school. We will have plenty of staff support for them.

Student Pick ups

3.10pm - Years Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 students exit from Queen St

Teachers will bring their classes to the Queen St Carpark. Parents, enter from the Queen St Gate, collect your children and exit immediately. Older children will join their younger siblings at this time also.

3.25pm - Years 3 - 6 students exit from Queen St or Concord Rd

Teachers will be at both gates dismissing the students. Please meet your children at the gates and refrain from entering the school site.

Family discussion point: please clarify to your child which gate you will wait at. They may need many reminders until we are all comfortable with the new organisation.

Mask Requirements

When students and staff return to school the following requirements are in place:

- masks are required for all staff indoors and outdoors (unless exercising or eating).
- masks are strongly recommended for primary students indoors and outdoors (unless exercising or eating).

Playground Break Times

The aim is to develop a routine that allows for fresh air and connection with peers and teachers. Teachers will introduce a routine where students practice safe hygiene methods and wash their hands regularly. We want their day at school to be fun but safe.

Family discussion point: encourage your child to use the bathroom at home before school and at break times.

Canteen

Our canteen will be open from Monday 25 October. Face to face purchases at recess and lunch will commence from 25 October, but with restrictions to cohorts and staggered meal times. We encourage you to place your child's lunch orders online.

Uniform Shop

If you wish to purchase any uniform items for your child, please do so online. Please allow for up to a week for you to receive these uniform items.

What to bring to school each day

- Stationery - All students Kindergarten - Year 6 are asked to bring their own set of items to use in class. Sharing is discouraged for hygiene reasons. Your child's teacher will send through a list of classroom requirements.
- Packed morning tea and lunch, unless ordering from the canteen.
- Water bottle.

Unfortunately, balls and other play equipment cannot come onto our school site, as they are considered high contact items. Non-contact games will be supervised by our teachers.

Enhanced Cleaning and Hygiene

Our school cleaning regime is in line with the DoE guidelines and NSW Health. Enhanced cleaning of toilet areas and high touch points will continue. Each learning space and toilet area has appropriate supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towel, tissues and disinfectant wipes.

Attendance

There is an expectation that your children will commence face to face learning unless they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition. Please email or telephone our school if your child falls into this category. Learning from Home will not continue after 25 October. If a student is absent for three or more days without a medical reason, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by our school. [If you need support to get your child back to school, please contact our school.](#)

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school, even with mild symptoms. If they are unwell at school, you or a nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please ensure your contact details are up to date. Any student with any COVID-19 symptoms should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free.

As communicated previously, please see attached invitation for a community ZOOM meeting sent earlier this week.

Also attached is a helpful article from the Australian Psychological Society to assist with transitioning students back to school. We will be providing additional resources and information to assist parents and students with this transition.

We sincerely appreciate your support with learning from home so far. We know everything will be smoother as we troubleshoot our way through difficulties together.

Yours Sincerely
M. Cidem