



Dear families,

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

<b>Commencing 25 October 2021 (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 2021 (week 5)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Years 3, 4 and 5</li><li>• Years 7 and 8</li></ul>

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 <b>must</b> check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. Parents and carers cannot enter school buildings except for essential reasons. 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 as unwell will be required to go home.
<b>Hygiene</b>	Schools will maintain and promote appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene practices. All staff and 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>	Staff, visitors and students (*) in years 7-12 must wear a face mask on campus. Younger students can wear a mask if they are comfortable doing so. Masks may not be suitable for students with a disability or medical conditions. <i>(*) If students wear masks they will be required to use their own personal masks. Please note disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i>
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	Physical distancing between children and young people is not always possible, particularly in classrooms and school environments. It is however important for limiting the transmission of COVID 19. Staff and parents will be required to physical distance at all times.
<b>Environmental cleaning</b>	Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch surfaces and play equipment.

<b>Ventilation</b>	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.
<b>Managing suspected cases</b>	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 until collected by a family member.
<b>Will schools have routine testing for COVID-19?</b>	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.
<b>Wellbeing supports</b>	Wellbeing and learning supports, such as face to face/online appointments with the school psychologist and support staff, will recommence with the return to school.  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 work with you to support your child to learn from home.

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

<b>Drop off and pick up</b>	<p>Students are required to come to school as close to 8:55am as possible. Supervision will occur from 8:45am onwards. Morning lines are postponed so we can minimise on campus gathering. <b><u>Please note students are not to play on the playground equipment/spider web etc before and after school.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Preschool</u></b> Please drop and collect children from the preschool courtyard/playground via the top gate, at 8:45am and 2:45pm. Sign on tables will be set up outside with sanitising stations and check in codes. The family room will be closed at this time.</p> <p><b><u>K-6</u></b> We ask that parents organise to drop/meet students off site or on the periphery of the school grounds. Students will line up at 8:55am at the designated entry/exit points (please refer to map) and will be chaperoned into the building by the class teacher. They will also be dismissed through the same entry/exit point.</p>
<b>Hygiene routines</b>	<p>Hand sanitiser will be at all entry/exit points across the school. Staff will implement revision lessons on hygiene (hand washing etc) and remind students throughout the day, especially when transitioning in and out of the classroom (e.g. before and after break times, entering the school each morning and leaving each afternoon etc). Different year groups will access different toilets (emergencies excepted) and this will be followed up with students when they return to school. Water bubblers will be locked but water refill stations will be open so students can refill their drink bottles. <b><u>All students must BYO drink bottles.</u></b> Students in years 3 – 6 are encouraged to utilise their own pencil cases/learning resources.</p>
<b>Teaching and learning</b>	<p>Our specialist staff will be working closely with specific teaching teams to minimise staff working across multiple year levels. This will impact specialised learning programs across the school. Terms overviews were uploaded onto SeeSaw at the end of last week. Please note that some information may change due to COVID safety planning. Band lessons will go ahead and these will take place outside on the multi purpose court. Further information will be communicated directly with band families.</p>

	Classes will be encouraged to utilise our outdoor spaces for learning activities e.g. nature playground, multi purpose court, gardens etc.
<b>Break times</b>	Break times will be split into two different time slots for juniors (K-2) and seniors (3-6): <b>Recess</b> Junior students 10:30 – 11am, and Senior students 11am – 11:30am  <b>Lunch</b> Junior students 12:45 – 1:30pm (including 15min supervised eating time) Senior students 1:15 – 2:00pm (including 15min supervised eating time)
<b>Before and After School Care</b>	YMCA will continue to operate and further information will be communicated directly with families.
<b>School canteens</b>	The existing arrangements with Healthy Kids will continue for Friday lunch only. Please order online as usual. Food will be delivered to the school and distributed to classrooms by our staff. All hygiene practices will be followed.

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, you can 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 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.

Kind regards,

Emma Aschenberger

Principal

15 October 2021