



Garden Suburb Public School  
Prospect Road Garden Suburb, New South Wales, 2289  
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Principal: Louise Dunn



**Term 4 Week 2 2021**

### **RETURNING TO SCHOOL INFORMATION**

We are excited to begin welcoming our Kindergarten and Year 1 students back to school with the commencement of the staggered return to school from Monday.

**18<sup>th</sup> October** – (Kindergarten and Year 1 students return to learning onsite)

Kindergarten and Year 1 students enter the school through the gate on Progress Place. Kindergarten and Year 1 teachers will be at this gate to welcome students back.

All other students who need to be at school enter the school through the front gate on Prospect Road.

**25<sup>th</sup> October** – (All students return to learning onsite)

### **DROPPING STUDENTS AT SCHOOL IN THE MORNING**

**Students in K-2 must enter the school through the gate on Progress Place.**

**Students in 3-6 must enter the school via the front gate on Prospect Road.**

Students will be able to sanitise their hands when entering the school grounds.

Support students will enter and exit the school through the gate at the carpark on Prospect Road, and the teachers will meet them there. Support unit students will meet back at this area for parents to collect in the afternoon at 3pm, to avoid mingling with other students in the afternoon.

**During this time, we cannot have students on the school site unsupervised before the 8:45am bell, as we cannot supervise them to ensure COVID Safe practices are observed. Please arrange to have your students arrive at school after 8:45am. We appreciate your understanding with this.**

### **COLLECTING STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL IN THE AFTERNOON**

In the afternoon students must exit gates according to their surname:

- A-G – Prospect Road
- H-M – Progress Place
- N-Z – Myall Road

Please ensure that you are maintaining social distancing at all times when waiting to collect your child and that you are not blocking the gate entrance.

Staff will be at the gates for 5 minutes after the bell goes to ensure that all students can be collected in a safe manner. This will allow parents to wait in cars to avoid congestion that might occur at the gate. This will mean that you do not have to be waiting at the gate before the bell. Students will wait in the school grounds, until they have a parent to collect them, if you have arranged with them to be collected from the school gate.

### **PLAYGROUND AREAS FOR DIFFERENT STAGES**

When students arrive at school in the morning, they will go straight to their stage area:

- Kinder and Year 1 – will play in the basketball court and Yarning Circle area (Area 2).
- Year 2 – will play under the Cola near the Kindergarten room.
- Year 3 and Year 4 – will play on the bottom oval area near the play equipment (Area 3).
- Year 5 and Year 6 – will play on the concrete area behind the library (Area 1).

### **RECESS AND LUNCH BREAKS (Students will remain in cohorts and stages will be in separate areas of the playground for break times)**

#### **K-2**

Lunch 11:10am-12:00pm (eating 11:10-11:20, play 11:20-12:00)

Recess 2:00pm-2:25pm

#### **3-6**

Recess 10:50am-11:15am

Lunch 1:10pm-2:00pm (eating 1:10-1:20, play 1:20-2:00)

#### **Support unit**

Lunch 11:20am-12:00pm

Recess 2:10pm-2:40pm

### **CANTEEN**

The **canteen** will be open from Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October and will be offering a revised menu, due to the staggered break times and not being able to have volunteers in the canteen. There will be no over the counter sales, as the canteen will not be handling cash.

## PARENTS AND CARERS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Parents and Carers are still not permitted onsite.

If you need to hand in or collect something from the office, you will need to do this via the front gate on Prospect Road and follow the check in procedures. You will also need to wear a mask when you enter the school gate.

## STUDENTS WHO ARE UNWELL

Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. Students who are unwell will be sent to the office and you will be called to collect them from school. Students will then need to follow the current health advice in regard to testing when unwell.



### **Stage 3 Canberra Camp**

Unfortunately, due to current COVID -19 restrictions, we have had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year's Stage 3 Canberra excursion. We are looking into a fun event for Stage 3 later in Term 4.

Parents and Carers have the choice of a refund or credit for fees paid. Please see admin section of the newsletter for refund information.

## Year 5 Families

Please see below information for applying to a selective school for 2023 that is specific to Merewether High School. Applications for Year 7, 2023 close on the 17th November 2021.

Due to the COVID -19 pandemic and the Public Health restrictions we are unable to hold our planned Year 5, information evening for Merewether High School. The session outlines the procedures for applying to an academically selective school for entry in Year 7, 2023.

Please find attached a PowerPoint outlining information about our school, the outstanding academic outcomes we achieve, the support we provide our high potential and gifted students and the extensive range of extracurricular activities on offer.

We have uploaded the planned presentation to our school website for interested parents and students to view. This presentation is available on our website at the following link:

[Enrolment Details - Merewether High School \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/enrolment/details-merewether-high-school)



**SCHOLASTIC**

# Book Club LOOP

for Parents

**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:  
**[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**

GET IT ON  
Google play

Download on the  
App Store



## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

### Week 2/3 focus: Expectations when working online

- Be polite and kind when commenting
- Use the stream to talk to teachers only
- Always try your best
- Complete quality work and submit by the due date and time

### Message from the office



#### Update parent contact details

With the students returning to school over the coming weeks it is important that your contact details are up to date. Please email the school if you have updated your phone numbers or email addresses since the beginning of the year.

[gardensub-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gardensub-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

# Enrol now for Kindergarten 2022

If you know of anyone in our community that will be enrolling their students at our school in 2022 please let them know that they can complete an online [enrolment application](#) on our website or they can contact the office.



## School Visitor Check-in



A single School Visitor Check-in system for every school across the state is coming from 18 October!

The Department of Education has partnered with Service NSW to provide a streamlined, digital school sign-in system for visitors and contractors at every NSW government school.

Benefits of the new system include:

- Accelerating your check-ins to as fast as 20 seconds!
- Linked to NSW Health's COVID-19 contact tracing ensuring every school is compliant with the NSW [COVID-19 mandate](#).[External link](#)
- Giving every school greater access to streamlined NSW Government services.

Watch our short [parent video](#)[External link](#) to see how it works for parents or our [contractor video](#)[External link](#).

### Who can use School Visitor check-in

- Visitors such as parents and carers, contractors, service providers and volunteers.

Students or visitors under the age of 18 are not required to use School Visitor Check-in.

School Visitor Check-in will be ready from 18 October at all NSW Government schools.

For more information visit [School Visitor Check-in](#) on the department website.

## Refunds

The Student Refund Form has been added to Sentral Parent Portal.

If you can please complete the form and return to the Office via the school email ([gardensub-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gardensub-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)) for processing. The refund form is found on the Sentral Parent Portal, click on 'Resources' and then 'School Information' to download the form. You will need to fill this out for the refund.

If you would like to have your fees as credit (Fees in Advance) or have any questions on this, please contact the Office via email.

We appreciate your patience while refunds are being processed. Please contact us if you have any questions.



**P&C**

The next P&C Meeting is on the 18<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm. This will be via zoom. If you would like to participate, please contact the office for the link.

For anyone wanting to join the P&C, receive correspondence and have your say in all affairs of the P&C, click the link for the [application form](#) alternatively it can be found on the school website. Cost is a nominal fee of \$2 which can be direct deposited into the P&C account (BSB: 032-521 / Acc No: 195671).

**JUNIOR BLASTERS**  
**AGES 5-7 | 60 MINS | 6+ WEEKS**

- Learn ball skills, including catching, throwing and teamwork, through fun game-based activities.
- Sign up now for your Starter Kit.
- Returning Junior Blasters score a Returner Kit with a ball, a backpack + one free add-on.

**MASTER BLASTERS**  
**AGES 7-10 | 90 MINS | 6+ WEEKS**

- Everyone gets a chance to bat, bowl and field in short, modified games of cricket.
- For kids with basic cricket skills.
- Sign up now for your Master Blasters Kit featuring a drink bottle and cap!

**STARTER KIT**      **RETURNER KIT**

**MASTER BLASTERS KIT**

**ACTIVE KIDS**  
THE OFFICIAL CRICKET PROGRAM FOR AUSTRALIA'S SCHOOLS

**play cricket**  
2022

# Fireworks

## Acrostic Poems by Stage 2

First, I hear a loud bang  
 In the dark  
 Ringing my ears  
 Eyes look to the sky  
 Where I see bright colours like  
 Orange and blue  
 Red and green  
 Kids looked in surprise  
 Sky lit up in beautiful light  
 Archie

Fantastic colours in the sky  
 If you see them, you may be scared or happy  
 Really pretty colours that light up the night sky  
 Early in the morning you will see no more  
 Will there be more big bangs in the lovely sky?  
 Only seen at night  
 Really loud bangs that will make you jump  
 Kaboom!!  
 See them explode in the dark midnight sky  
 Baileah

Fiery as  
 In the centre of the core it's  
 Red it even spreads  
 Everywhere  
 Wow today has been loud because  
 Of the fireworks it's  
 Really loud and  
 Kind offers nice at the  
 Same time.  
 Brayden

Far away flashing lights  
 In Sydney flashing flames relight the sky  
 with wonder  
 Relights the sky with flames and fire  
 Everywhere fire lights the sky with a  
 BANG!  
 Wherever you are you will hear wonder  
 Outstanding everyone shouts while the fire  
 and bangs carry on  
 Rushing out the sky like a rocket with a  
 bang!  
 Keeps lightings up in the sky  
 Suddenly they all disappeared  
 Cody

Fireworks!  
 Incredible fireworks flash like a bang.  
 Reflections in your mirror...shining,  
 Epic bangs in the dark sky...ringing.  
 "Wow, it's fantastic" says the Dog in his mind,  
 Or he could be barking loudly  
 "Ruff, ruff" he barks.  
 Kids screaming in happiness,  
 Super loudly.  
 Case



Fuse is lit,  
 Into the sky I go,  
 Racing towards the stars,  
 EXPLODE!  
 Wonderful colours escape me,  
 Orange I glow  
 Red could be next, but who  
 Knows.  
 SURPRISE!  
 Ebboni

Fire will light up the sky  
 It will be as bright as shining gold  
 Rumble, rumble keep your dogs on their leads  
 Every time you think it is over it just comes back  
 What a wonderful view you will think  
 Once every firework goes boom you may think of  
 a loved one  
 Ready for more but it's over its like you have just  
 met the loved one you lost  
 Keen to stay with that loved one but that's life  
 So when you see fireworks you may think of a  
 loved one  
 Edward

Flames lit up as the sky got dark  
 In the sky it was bright  
 Rain rained from the sky  
 Enough fireworks that's a lot  
 When did this start?  
 Oh, that looks amazing  
 Run, it might hit you!  
 Kapow as the fireworks went of  
 Shh be quiet fire works  
 Eli



Fire  
Ice no-no  
Rapid  
Elephant sized  
Wow  
Oozy  
Rapidly  
King Kong sized  
Surely cool  
Elijah



Fantastic sight  
In the sky  
Rushing everywhere  
Everywhere there are bangs  
Wonderful sight  
Out they come with a big bang  
Running through the sky they go  
Kicking up my legs as they go  
So sad when they all go  
Maya

Flames light up the sky  
In the air a light show starts  
Really high they go  
Everyone loves them  
Watching it is amazing  
Orange explosions  
Really, I don't want to go!  
Ruby Rose

Fire  
Ice no-no  
Rapid  
Elephant-sized  
WOW  
Oozy  
Rapidly  
King Kong sized  
Surely cool  
Archer

Fireworks all colours too  
It is eye catching woohoo  
Red sparks light up the air  
Everywhere!  
We see the sparks make new patterns  
Or they will see what matters  
Riders get an excellent view  
Kites get them too  
Suddenly they all have gone. This is only for  
another time but there is more.  
Liam

Flashing Light  
In the night  
Really high  
Everyone loves them  
Wheels of colour in the sky  
Orange, red and blue  
Rushing through the sky then "Bang"  
Kites flying in the sky  
Suddenly it's all over  
Mia

Flaming lights  
In the sky  
Rounding firework  
Everyone gatherers their joy and says I love the  
firework  
We all watch the fireworks, and we love you  
Omg look at the fireworks  
Ready to sing  
Knock knock bang bang zoom zoom  
Star light forever  
Stella

Fire exploding  
Into the air  
Rocketing through the sky  
Endless bangs  
Worried kids  
Orange sky  
Red explosions  
Kids fascinated  
Specks of light  
James

Fighting through the night  
In the creepy house  
Riding through the dark  
Everywhere every were there are  
noises  
Working though it  
On the top of the building  
Running through the rain  
Kayaking through the lake  
Saving a person from the monster  
Lola

Frizzing sparks  
In the dark scary night  
Rattling noises from here and there  
Excited people watching with sparkles  
in their eyes  
Wonderful bangs but really joyed  
people  
Outstanding fireworks in the sky  
above you  
Realistic patterns fill the sky  
Kindness fills the sky  
Show us more we love it show us  
more

Nahni  
Flame and hot stars in the sky.  
I liked the things that made them  
appear from the boat.  
Right, I want to see on the boat.  
"Eeee" I'm on the boat.  
Wow, this is amazing  
Omg it is so bright wow  
Right, I'm riding 3 2 1  
Woohooooo  
Kaboom!  
Sweet that was amazing i hope it  
happens again.  
Zee

Fire  
I love watching them bang  
Running up and down with glee  
Exciting bang  
Walking around trying to find a spot to sit  
On the beach watching  
Rushing so you don't miss it  
Crackling popping and banging  
Suddenly bang, bang, bang!  
Zoe

Fancy lights  
In the dark  
Radiant  
Explosions  
Wonderous  
Outstanding  
Rapturous  
Knock out  
Sizzling  
Estelle

Fire up in the sky  
In the air up so high  
Round they go round and round  
Exploding like confetti  
Where do I go to escape the BOOMS!  
Over the hills you see them high  
Rushing like fireflies in the night sky  
KNOCK, BANG, PEW!!!  
Suddenly looking out beyond the  
horizon, seeing beautiful patterns and  
colours  
Lachlan

Flashing flashlights  
Into the sky  
Racing beam of lights  
Extraordinary colours  
Welling up the midnight sky  
Ordinary people watching from below  
Radical fireworks exploding all over  
Knock... Knock... Creek Bang!  
Singing through the air, smoke everywhere  
Lochlann



Flame Flash in the sky  
In the dark smoky night  
Rising above the crowd  
Everyone's eager to see them  
Working its magic across the sky  
Outrageously loud  
Rivers of colour  
Kids laughing with joy  
Sparks of colour all through the sky  
Maya W

Fun  
Interesting  
Rememberable  
Exciting  
Wonderful  
Outstanding  
Really colourful  
Kid friendly  
Super

Fireworks, friends and fun!  
I love fireworks!  
Rainbow in the night sky  
Enjoy the fire works!  
WOW! Went the crowd  
Outstanding fireworks!  
ROAR! Went the gun  
KABOOM! Went the fireworks  
Smiles all round!  
Mabel

Flaming fire  
Ignite  
Red glitter sprinkling down  
Everyone saw the BANG!  
Wow so bright  
Orange and yellow sparky sparkles  
Red hot fireworks  
Kaboom!!  
Sparkling hot yellow fireflies  
Gain

Hamish  
Fireworks are gorgeous in the night  
In the air lay smoke clouds  
Rainbow colours everywhere  
Everywhere there are bangs there are  
fireworks  
Wonderful light shows in the sky  
Orange sparkles in the sky  
Red explosion everywhere  
Killing darkness everywhere  
Suddenly all of the light has disappeared

Jordyn



# School Travel for 2022



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## 2022 school travel applications are now open

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

## School Student Transport Scheme site change

On 1 October 2021 the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) information and application portal was moved to **transportnsw.info**. This will assist families to find all their travel information in the one place.

### Travel from Term 1 2022

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) open at the start of Term 4 2021 for travel in 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a difficult period for local bus operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations increasingly difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel on a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Please also remember that students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).



Further information can be found at [transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel](https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel)

Enquiries can be submitted at [transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback](https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback)




| NSW Department of Education

# Roadmap for parents and carers Return to school for Level 3 plus

Information current as at 7 October 2021.  
Developed in partnership with NSW Health

[education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families](https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families)





# In Term 4, schools will return to face-to-face learning either through a ‘staged return’ or ‘full return’.

The best learning environment for students is in the classroom and we are looking forward to welcoming back our staff and students in Term 4. We know that while there will be excitement, there will also be some anxiety and uncertainty about being back together at school.

Recent evidence shows that very little COVID transmission happens between children in school settings, and only a very small number of children who contract COVID-19 get seriously ill. However, to support school safety we are requiring all staff on site to be fully vaccinated, and we are strongly encouraging our students and school community to do the same.

We have worked with NSW Health on our COVID-safe plan to return to school sites and have developed effective practices to support this, including staff vaccinations, mask wearing, reduced mingling of staff and student groups, ventilation in classrooms and continued good hygiene and cleaning. We are confident that this, in combination with support from our school community, will minimise risk and help to keep schools open and students learning face-to-face next to their peers.

## How the staged return to school will work

Students will return to face-to-face learning at school in the following order:

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

To maximise the re-establishment of a consistent routine, students who attend schools for Specific Purposes (SSPs) are recommended to return at the same time as students in mainstream settings. Students with disabilities in mainstream classes or support classes can also return as part of the staggered return at the same time as their year groups.

Students completing their HSC can already return in a limited way and this will continue for the first two weeks of Term 4. From 18 October, these students will have full-time access to school campuses and their teachers.

Some schools may have slightly different return to school plans, particularly if they have stage based classes or are very small schools.



### School attendance

All students should be at school on the date indicated for their year group, unless:

- they have a medical certificate which says they can't return to school due to a condition or illness
- they are currently unwell
- they have been asked by NSW Health to self-isolate.



## Wellbeing

If you are worried that the impacts of COVID-19 or going back to face-to-face learning may be affecting your child's wellbeing, please discuss this with your child's teacher.

You can find more information to help your child's wellbeing through the mental health and wellbeing resources on the department's website.



## Break times, drop-offs and pick-ups and canteens

To make sure students reduce the risk of transmission across cohorts, schools will put in place staggered recess and lunch breaks, start and finish times and drop-off and pick-up points.

Students can use the canteen during breaks. This will be different at each school depending on the size of the school, the number of students, traffic flow and other factors.

## Creating a safe learning environment



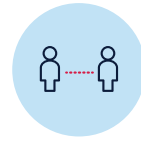
### Masks and face coverings

Masks will be mandatory for all staff and all students in Year 7 and above while they are indoors and outdoors on school sites unless eating or exercising. Masks are strongly recommended for primary students both indoors and outdoors unless eating or exercising.



Students should bring their own masks where possible, but schools will have back-up supplies just in case.

Masks are mandatory for all travel on public transport for children 13 years and older.



## Physical distancing

All adults must keep 1.5 metres distance from each other, including teachers and support staff, and parents and carers waiting to collect children.

Physical distancing between children in the same class is not required under the latest health guidelines. Mixing between class groups will be minimised and students will be supported to follow strict hygiene practices like:

- regularly washing hands
- not sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into their elbow, or else using a tissue which should be put in the bin straight away
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.



## Vaccination

All adults at school sites, including employees, contractors, volunteers and essential visitors, must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by 8 November 2021. Adults that are required to support the staged return to school in October 2021 will be required to have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by that date. For schools under Level 3 settings, adults are strongly encouraged to have had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, but are not required to be fully vaccinated until 8 November.

Students aged 12 or above are now eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination. Parents and carers can book in a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine now.

Vaccination appointments are available at more than 3,000 locations across NSW, including GPs and pharmacies. For students and families who have questions or concerns related to getting vaccinated, refer to [NSW Health's Know the facts COVID-19 vaccination fact sheet](#).



## School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Schools will continue to receive additional cleaning in line with advice from NSW Health.

Schools have received extra supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment and can order more as needed.



## School activities

Many school-based activities will remain on hold, including large celebrations such as presentation days and graduations, arts and sports events. For a full list of what is permitted and what is on hold, refer to [education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families](https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families).



## Visitors

Only essential visitors are allowed on school sites at this time. When dropping off or picking up your child, parents and carers need to stay outside school grounds, you will need to wear a mask and physically distance. Some exceptions may exist for:

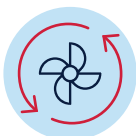
- schools for specific purposes
- vulnerable students
- students with disability
- preschools.

In these instances, follow the vaccination and mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the Service NSW QR code when entering the school.



## Reporting and assessment

You will receive your child's Semester 2 report by the end of the year. This will be a simplified version of the report you normally receive.



## Ventilation

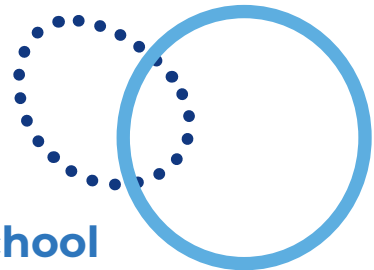
Open or well-ventilated spaces reduce the risk of COVID-19. Where possible classroom doors and windows will remain open and fans and air-conditioners will be set to use outside air, where possible.



## Rapid antigen testing

We are exploring with NSW Health the use of COVID home testing kits (known as rapid antigen testing) as a further screening measure to reduce the risk of outbreaks in schools, or the length of time students need to isolate after contact with someone with COVID. Further details will be provided in Term 4.





## Orientation and transition to school

We have flexible arrangements so that students and parents and carers can still get help with orientation and transition to school in a COVID-safe way. Kindergarten and Year 7 transition and orientation programs will be virtual for schools doing a staged return. Transition and orientation programs will be possible for other schools, however only children will be allowed on school grounds.



## Responding to COVID-19 cases

Where there is a case of COVID-19 in the school community, the department has established systems and protocols with NSW Health to manage and respond accordingly to keep our staff and students safe. These protocols include communication with parents or carers if their child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 while at school or if the school becomes closed.



## If your school reverts to learning from home

If schools revert to learning from home due to a Public Health Order or direction from NSW Health or the Department, the school will continue to provide learning activities for your child to do at home and will communicate with you about their learning.

If your child's school needs to revert to remote learning, your school will let families know through the usual channels, which might include email, social media or the school website.



## If your school becomes closed due to a COVID-19 case

Parents and students will be notified when a decision is made to make the school closed for onsite attendance due to a confirmed case of COVID-19 or other events that require the school to close. Information about the operational status of the school will be distributed through the school's information channels, including the school website, Schools Safety App, any school social media channels and the department's website. During this period, the school will continue to provide learning activities for your child to do at home and will communicate with you about their learning. Parents and students will be informed by the department when the school is ready to resume onsite learning.



## Get in touch with questions or concerns

Your principal has already started planning for a COVID-safe return at your school, taking into account the unique needs of their students and school. To support this planning, and to allow for your teachers to be fully vaccinated by 8 November or earlier, it is important that students return on the date specified for their year group.

Get in contact with your principal directly if you would like more information about your school's COVID-safe return to school plan or if you have concerns or questions about your child being back in their classroom for face-to-face learning in Term 4.

If you need further information, please call your school. If you need an interpreter to assist you with your enquiry, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. You will not be charged for this service.

## Say hello

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