



Dear parent and carers,

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.

**Commencing 25 October
(Week 4)**

- Early childhood centres (ECEC)
- Preschool and kindergarten
- Years 1 and 2
- Out of school hours care (OSHC)

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.

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

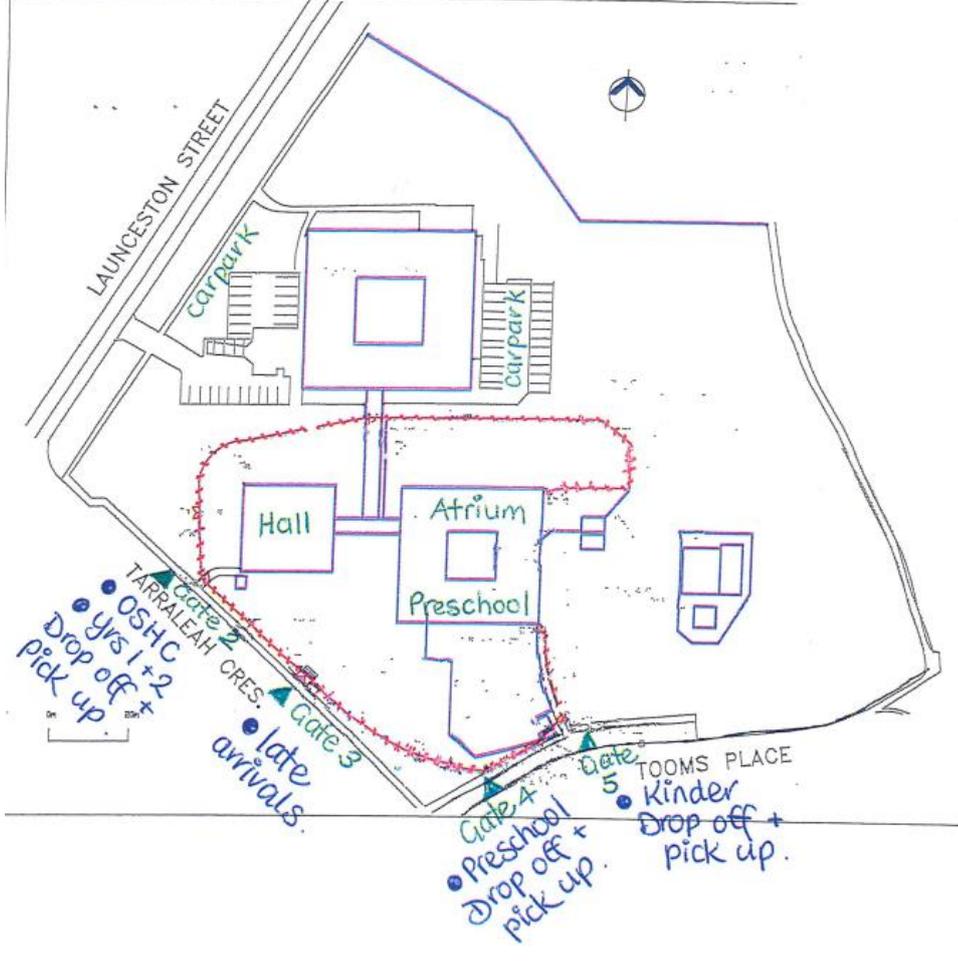
- the health and safety of staff and young people,
- the mental and emotional well-being of students and staff, and
- ensuring continuity of learning.

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

Use of Check in CBR app	All staff and visitors must check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. Parents and carers cannot enter school grounds except for an essential reason. Visitors must call to make an appointment, or in advance of attendance. All visitors must report to the front office.
Student illness	Staff and students who are unwell are not able to attend school. Students who present unwell will be required to go home.
Hygiene	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.

Masks	<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>
Physical Distancing	<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>
Environmental cleaning	<p>Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch services, frequently used objects, and play equipment.</p>
Ventilation	<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>
Managing suspected cases	<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>
Will schools have routine testing for COVID-19?	<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>
Wellbeing supports	<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.

Drop off and pick up	<p>Families/Carers must not enter the school site or come onto school grounds to drop off or collect children except in the case of an emergency.</p> <p>Onsite visitors to school should be limited to essential visitors only. To assist we ask that families/carers remain outside school gates.</p> <p><i>Where will students enter and exit the school grounds?</i></p> <p>Students will enter and exit the same gates at morning drop off and afternoon pick up.</p> <p>Preschool – Gate 4 (double gates at top of preschool playground) Kindergarten – Gate 5 (single gate entering K-2 Playground) Years 1 and 2 – Gate 2 (single gate next to hall)</p> <p>Families/Carers are asked to wait outside school gates</p> <p>Preschool students will arrive at school at 9 am</p> <p>K-2 students will go straight to classrooms upon arrival at school (from 8.40am)</p> <p>School staff will supervise afternoon pick up (at 3.00pm)</p> 
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	<p>Late students – if your child is late, please call the front office (6142 0044) and wait at Gate 3 for a staff member to collect your child/ren</p> <p>Early pick up – please call the front office (6142 0044) and wait at Gate 3 for a staff member to deliver your child/ren.</p>				
Hygiene routines	<p><i>Where will hand sanitiser be located?</i></p> <p>Hand sanitiser stations will be placed at each entry point to the school as well as prominent positions indoors. Every classroom will have hand sanitiser, soap and paper towel</p> <p><i>What will hand washing routines look like?</i></p> <p>Hands will be washed/cleaned upon entry to the classroom; prior to eating/drinking; before and after play; as well as toileting</p>				
Teaching and learning	<p><i>What adjustments to specialist teaching programs will occur (cohorting implications)?</i></p> <p>Release teachers will teach classes in students’ regular classroom.</p> <p>There will be no library borrowing. Your child may, however, return school library books to the library.</p> <p>There will be no extracurricular lessons, including piano, until further notice.</p> <p>Weather permitting, lessons may occur in outdoor spaces, as well as the school hall.</p>				
Break times	<p><i>What adjustments to break times will occur to allow for cohorts to have different breaks?</i></p> <p>All students will eat recess and lunch in their regular classrooms.</p> <p><i>Where will students be required to have breaks? Specific year level on oval only</i> K-2 class level groups will be allocated days and/or times on different playground equipment to minimise contact between students. See schedule below:</p>				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Recess	Kinder Mud pit & Monkey bars	Kinder Sand pit & Swing	Kinder Mud pit & Monkey bars	Kinder Sand pit & Swing	Kinder Mud pit & Monkey bars
	Years 1/2 Sand pit & Swing	Years 1 /2 Mud pit & Monkey bars	Years 1/2 Sand pit & Swing	Years 1 /2 Mud pit & Monkey bars	Years 1/2 Sand pit & Swing

Lunch	Kinder Sand pit & Swing	Kinder Mud pit & Monkey bars	Kinder Sand pit & Swing	Kinder Mud pit & Monkey bars	Kinder Sand pit & Swing
	Years 1 /2 Mud pit & Monkey bars	Years 1/2 Sand pit & Swing	Years 1 /2 Mud pit & Monkey bars	Years 1/2 Sand pit & Swing	Years 1 /2 Mud pit & Monkey bars
	<p>Play equipment will be cleaned in the morning and after each break time.</p> <p>Preschool students will not mix with K-2 students during the school day</p>				
Before and After School Care	<p><i>What are the adjustments to procedures for drop off and pick up of students?</i></p> <p>GATE 2 (near hall) will be used for all OSHC drop off and pick up of students.</p> <p>MORNING: staff will collect your child and take them on to school grounds. AFTERNOON: wait at Gate 2 and staff will deliver your child to you.</p> <p>Please call this number 0437 112 788 for assistance if needed</p>				
Lunch orders	<p>Families can order their lunch for their child/children from Woden Community Service online at https://wcs-canteen.square.site/ Lunches will be delivered to classrooms</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,

Robyn Strangward

Lyons Early Childhood School