

## Principal's Update

19 May 2020

Dear all

Well what a difference a week can make. However it is a very welcome difference and reflects the success our communities have achieved in terms of minimising the threat of Covid-19.

As of Monday 25 May, all students will return to school for normal lessons. This is week 5 in the ten week term and is an A week in terms of the timetable. I have attached a Fact Sheet from the Department which outlines their position. Please read this in conjunction with the information I have provided in this Update. If you have any further questions don't hesitate to email me.

All students will attend on Monday, their normal classes in their normal rooms and with their teacher. Teachers will recommence preparing face to face lessons and therefore the online lessons will end on Friday 22 May for Years 7 - 11.

Of course Year 12 have only had face to face lessons from Monday 11 May, as they have been attending full-time.

There will be no sport at this time and so students will be supervised during sport in classrooms to complete work missed over the past few weeks or use the time for private study.

From 25 May, the canteen will operate as normal and Year 11 and 12 will again be allowed to access the cafes on Military Road (between Belmont and Raglan) at recess and lunch. They will be expected to follow the social distancing rules that are current for cafes and take-away outlets.

Before and after school classes will take place for all years and classes that previously had lessons in this time.

However, we will continue to follow and encourage good hygiene practice. Two liquid soap dispensers are in the bathrooms and the hand sanitiser dispensers are attached to walls around the school. Teachers also have automatic hand sanitiser dispensers which they will continue to take to classrooms for student use.

We will also continue with the extra cleaning in the school.

School buses have continued to run during the time when most students remained at home and of course they will be available as normal before and after school.

As students will not be required to follow social distancing when at school, basketball and handball will be allowed at recess and lunch.

At this point in time our advice is that parent meetings at school are not encouraged and so rather than wait any longer we will have the postponed Year 7 Parent Teacher night on 2 June. The format however will be different; in that teachers will contact parents by phone.

The time frame for discussion is five minutes and so you can see it is a simple touch base to ask a few questions and to determine how your son or daughter has coped over the past term. If you find that more time is required, then I encourage you to ask for further contact using the Parent Teacher Online (PTO) website.

All reports will follow the timeline as outlined on the school calendar. For some subjects in Year 7 where teachers have not seen students more than a few times for this reporting period, a mark or rank may not be included. However there will be a comment.

It is going to be a difficult transition for some of our students who have become content with being at home; however for many it will be great to get back to normal with their friends and teachers. I again encourage you, that if you have concerns about any aspect of your students wellbeing that you contact the school and a reminder that if your child is unwell please do not send them to school.

Once again thank you for your patience over this quite difficult period. Thank you also for the lovely emails you have sent to the school showing your appreciation for the incredible effort the staff have made to support online learning.

Best wishes

Susan

Susan Wyatt  
Principal  
Mosman High School

## **A guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning**

**This guide is for parents and carers**

Information has been updated as at 19 May 2020, until further notice.

### **Schools are safe and open for full time face-to-face learning**

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

#### ***School attendance***

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- They are currently unwell.

Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact your school.

### ***Reporting and assessment***

Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school.

You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (week 6, Term 3).

This may be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Schools are encouraged to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.

### ***School activities***

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

#### ***What children can do:***

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- Year 11 and 12 students may attend classes/activities relating to subjects available on other campuses
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. Year 10 and 11 work-placement is able to proceed from Term 3 2020.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

#### ***What students can't do:***

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Use hydrotherapy pools
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online.

### ***School cleaning and hygiene supplies***

Your school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap.

Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.

### ***School grounds***

There should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Your school can provide guidance as to who is considered essential.

Your school will provide advice on drop off and pick up procedures.

Wherever possible, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.

Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal.

Out of school hours care can continue to operate.

Community use of school facilities will recommence only for uses that are necessary for continuation of education and with principal's approval.

### **Responding to COVID-19 cases**

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise