

Dear Parents and Carers

It is exciting to be finally welcoming our Kindergarten and Year 1 students back to face to face learning here at school after such a long period of Learning from Home. Monday October 18 is the beginning of a staged return to school for all students and the following information outlines important details and procedures to help make the return to school as smooth as possible.

Safe Return to School - Changes to Start and Finish times, Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

To make sure students reduce the risk of transmission across cohorts, the school has put in place staggered start and finish times and drop-off and pick-up points requiring families to make adjustments for the drop off and collection of students.

Summary of Adjusted Times

- **Kindergarten: 9 am - 2.55 pm**
- **Year 1: 9 am - 3.05 pm**

Year 3-6 siblings of Kindergarten and Year 1 students will start at the normal time of 9:15am but will finish school earlier each afternoon for the convenience of family pick-ups and also to alleviate large gatherings of adults and parking issues.

As part of the school's Safe Return strategies for the staged return of students beginning with Kindergarten and Year 1 on Monday October 18, the following drop-off and pick-up procedures will apply. (Physical distancing protocols will be in place)

Drop Off Procedures

From Monday October 18 parents of Kindergarten and Year 1 students will be required to drop children off between **8.45 - 9.00 am** at one of the 3 school gates at the rear of the school on **The Boulevarde or Endeavour St**, where students will be welcomed by class teachers. Please ensure that children arrive prior to **9:00am**. Please note that in accordance with NSW Department of Education advice, parents are not permitted to enter the school site until further notice.

Safe Pick-up Locations

After careful consideration for community safety the designated pick-up locations for K-2 students are all at the rear of the school site. This decision was made in the interest of student and community safety as the gates at the rear of the school are adjacent to areas where parents and carers can collect their children with a safe handover from teachers and in an area where safe physical distancing is possible. It is also crucial that parents of Kindergarten and Year 1 students collect their child(ren) and leave the area immediately to avoid numbers of adults gathering and also allowing other parents to collect older children at 3:15pm. This is not a time to socialise and catch up with friends.

Pick up Procedures - Kindergarten

Kindergarten students will be dismissed from the following gates at **2.55 pm** as follows.

- Endeavour St gate: **KC and KK**
- The Boulevarde Pedestrian gate next to school driveway: **KG, KL, KW**

Please note that siblings in attendance will be leaving at the same time as the youngest family member.

Pick up Procedures - Year 1

Year 1 students will be dismissed from following gates at **3.05 pm** as follows.

- Endeavour Street gates: **1M and 1K**
- Pedestrian gate at the rear of the school (On The Boulevarde) - **1E, 1P and 1/2T** (Year 1's only)

Please note that siblings in attendance will be leaving at the same time as the youngest family member.

Be on Time

It is important that parents and carers are at the designated pick-up areas at the time stated above. As this is a new procedure please allow enough time for travel and parking to ensure you don't keep your child and staff waiting.

Wet Weather

The same procedures will apply during periods of wet weather. Please ensure that your child has a raincoat packed in their school bag at all times.

Safe parking and driving behaviour

It is critically important that families use the utmost common sense, patience and courtesy when driving and parking in the vicinity of the school. The staggered drop-off and pick-up times should alleviate some of the traffic issues around the school but it comes down to individual driver decision making and safety awareness to ensure our students and community members remain safe.

Attendance at School

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

Student Illness

If students present with any COVID-19 symptoms, they will be sent home and should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free.

Keeping student groups together

As we return to school students will be kept in their cohorts to minimise opportunities for transmission of COVID-19 and to enable effective contact tracing and containment. This means minimising interaction between students on school grounds and keeping cohorts together where possible. In our case, Kindergarten and Year 1 students will have their breaks in the separate playground areas.

Transition: *Learning from Home to Face to Face Learning at School*

The final day for the 'Learning from Home' period for our Kindergarten and Year 1 students is Friday 15 October 2021. If parents/carers choose to keep their children at home beyond this date, please refer to the links below for learning activities. Please note that classroom teachers will be unable to mark or provide feedback on these learning activities.

ES1

<https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/guided-learning-packages-2/week-i/week-i-early-stage-1>

Stage 1

<https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/guided-learning-packages-2/week-i/week-i-stage-1>

School Canteen

The school canteen will not be operational next week so all children should have sufficient food for lunch and fruit break as well as a water bottle. From Monday 25 October the school canteen service will recommence for online orders only using Munch Monitor. There will be no over the counter service at lunch time or fruit break until further notice.

Parent Information Zoom

Tomorrow afternoon at 2:30pm I will run through the above procedures for families of Kindergarten and Year 1 students in a brief Zoom meeting. Mrs Brandtman, Ms Lennon and Ms Thomas will co-host the Zoom session and parents/carers will be able to ask questions on the chat that will hopefully be clarified during the session. The link to the meeting is below.

<https://nsweducation.zoom.us/j/66104217227?pwd=Ui9zSENFREdZeHBwMHhXNm5Hd0s5dz09>

Meeting ID: 661 0421 7227

Passcode: 292023

Kind Regards,

Rob Jennings