



Return to school-latest news

Thank you for your ongoing support, understanding, patience and messages of gratitude over the past few weeks. This newsletter aims to outline the plans for the full time return to school as announced by the NSW government and Department of Education this week.

Frequently asked questions

Attendance

From Monday 25 May, students will return to NSW schools full time. All students need to return to full time attendance unless:

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

Normal attendance procedures apply. Please notify the school if your child will be away and provide a reason.

Drop off and pick up procedures

Things will improve as we get into a pattern, particularly the 3pm pick up for K/1/2. It is not a perfect plan, however moving 600 students off site and managing adults was never going to be perfect. And on cue today, it rained as per Rose Bay tradition. It will just get better.

Can parents come into the school?

No. We usually enjoy having our parents in the school but not at this time. For the moment please only come into the school if:

- signing your child in late or picking them up early from the office.
- collecting a sick child.
- collecting a uniform shop order.

If you do need to come into the main office, please maintain physical distance from other adults, use the hand sanitiser on the shelf at the doorway and wait in the corridor if there are already two people at the counter. The office staff would like to pass on their thanks for all your kind words and patience and understanding on the phone.

What will learning look like?

- From Monday 25 May teachers will be teaching face to face lessons at school for all subject areas.
- Normal student numbers will be in classrooms ranging from 20-30 students.
- Students will attend library lessons.
- Students will engage in non-contact physical education lessons.
- Learning from home programs and resources will no longer be provided as all teachers are teaching face to face.
- For this first week, there will be no homework set to allow children time to settle back in to the school routine and to get organized for each day.
- We will be running staggered lunch and recess breaks to limit the number of children in the playground.

What won't students be doing?

Students won't be involved in:

- assemblies and activities involving large groups of children.
- school incursions or excursions including camps.
- interschool activities such as PSSA sport, athletics carnivals, debating, dance and music events, public speaking, chess, band.
- extra-curricular before and after school activities for the remainder of term 2 and term 3.
- birthday treats or any food to share at school; please do not send.



Canteen

- Our canteen is currently not operational.

Uniform Shop

- The Uniform Shop will not open face-to-face but will continue to fill online orders which can be collected from the office. Back-orders and online orders will be processed every Wednesday. A text message will be sent once the order is available for collection. Orders will be placed on a table outside the school office Monday-Friday for collection. Social Distancing Rules must be maintained during collection of your orders please. If you require any further information regarding orders please call or text Alice on 0466 627 471 or email aangel@picklesschoolwear.com.

Health and Safety Practices

The school will be adhering to the health and safety advice as follows:

- Students should remain at home if they are unwell and seek medical advice as required.
- Families are asked not to send food to share (e.g. birthday treats).
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and learning spaces for use by children and adults.
- Children will be reminded regularly throughout the day to wash their hands. All bathrooms are well stocked with soap supplies.
- The school has received a significant increase in cleaning hours. We have an additional cleaner onsite during the day who wipes down touch surfaces in all buildings, toilets and the playground.
- Bubblers will not be in use – all children need to bring a water bottle.
- There will be no extracurricular visitors on site e.g. OT, speech therapy, specialists
- 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.

Newsletter

There has been lots of COVID 19 communication over the last two months. That should ease. Newsletters will now return to every fortnight starting next week. (even weeks)

Photos

Thank you for the special COVID 19 working from home photos. I have read every email and looked at every photo. They will be archived. Enjoy the attached photos. They are indeed special and capture the time when we worked from home.

Thank you

I know I have thanked you all many times now for your patience, understanding and flexibility as we have worked through this pandemic situation. I will keep thanking you from the bottom of my heart because, as a school community, you have been instrumental in making such challenging times easier with your care, compassion and support.

Thank you in anticipation of your patience over the next couple of weeks as we navigate the next stage and respond to anything that might not work. We will be constantly reviewing plans to ensure we have the best way of managing things. Our whole staff has been thrilled to welcome all the children back full time and look forward to continuing quality teaching and learning in the classroom.

Warm Regards

Gai O'Neill

Principal

Tuesday 26 May 2020

