

Monday, 24 January 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The start of the 2022 school year has been adjusted to help minimise the peak of COVID-19 cases in South Australia.

There will be a staged return to school and preschool over the first two weeks of term that balances every child's learning entitlement with safety and risk management concerns.

Face-to-face learning has been prioritised for our youngest learners and for specific year levels that are transitioning. Remote learning will be provided for all other year levels.

The dates for the start of Term 1 are:

Monday 31 January – preparation day

Tuesday 1 February – preparation day

Wednesday 2 February – school is back

Face to face learning for: preschool, reception, year 1, year 7, year 8 and year 12 students

Remote learning for: years 2 to 6 students and years 9 to 11 students.

Monday 14 February – planned return of face-to-face learning for all year levels.

Face-to-face learning:

Will be provided for preschool, reception, year 1, year 7, year 8 and year 12 students, starting Wednesday 2 January.

If you choose to keep your child at home, or if they are required to isolate, a school based remote learning program will not be offered.

The Department for Education is developing online learning for reception to year 10 students that your child can access online. More detail will be provided before the school term commences.

Remote learning provided for:

Years 2 to 6 students and years 9 to 11 students, starting on Wednesday 2 February.

If you are required to attend your workplace and do not have any other appropriate supervision for your children, they can come to school. We will supervise them as they complete their remote learning program.

Preparation days (31 January and 1 February)

These days will be used by our staff to prepare for remote learning and the change to the start of term 1.

If you are required to work and do not have appropriate supervision for your child, you can choose to send them to school to be supervised on these days. No formal learning programs will be provided.

Minimising the spread of COVID-19

To ensure that our students and staff are as safe as possible at school, we will be implementing the following measures as advised by the Department for Education and SA Health:

- Please keep your child home if they are unwell, even mildly
- Masks are required for:
 - All adults when indoors (except if it's impeding our staff's ability to communicate while teaching)
 - students in years 7 to 12 when indoors
- Masks are strongly recommended for children in years 3 to 6 when indoors
- Natural ventilation will be maximised by leaving doors/windows open, continued use of air conditioning (set to fresh air intake where available) and fans where possible
- Outdoor learning where appropriate
- Physical distancing where possible
- Minimise student intermingling indoors, for example across class groups
- Limit non-essential visitors on site. We will work with parents of students who are starting preschool or school to make sure you are able to come on site to be part of your child's transition (in a COVID safe way).
- An extra daily site clean (funded by the department)
- Temporary postponement of the following activities (until week 4 of term):
 - camps, excursions and incursions
 - interschool sport trials and competitions
 - large gatherings such as assemblies, events and concerts.

Out of school hours care will continue as normal.

We appreciate you might have some questions about these changes. We'll do our best to start planning a smooth start to the 2022 school year. More details will be provided as we get closer to the start of term.

We look forward to seeing your child face-to-face or online to start the school year.

Julie James

Principal

STARTING TERM 1 2022

The start of the 2022 school year has been adjusted to help minimise the peak of COVID-19 cases in South Australia. There will be a staged return to school and preschool over the first two weeks of term that balances every child's learning entitlement with safety.

FROM MONDAY 31 JANUARY TO FRIDAY 11 FEBRUARY

JAN 31



SCHOOLS AND PRESCHOOLS



STUDENTS

Monday 31 January – preparation day (supervision for some children on site)

Tuesday 1 February – preparation day (supervision for some children on site)

Wednesday 2 February – school and preschool is back

Face to face learning for: preschool, reception, year 1, year 7, year 8 and year 12 students

Remote learning for: years 2 to 6 students and years 9 to 11 students

Parents who are required to attend work and do not have anyone who can supervise their children can choose to send their child to school for online learning supervision and activities, and preschool for supervision.



STAFF

All school and preschool-based staff will work from their site unless unwell or required to isolate.



EARLY CHILDHOOD



Childcare programs (ie. occasional care, rural care, long day care on integrated sites) will **operate** with COVID safe measures in place.



Essential services offered on **Children's Centre** sites by CaFHS and DHS may **continue** face-to-face as determined necessary by those agencies.



Essential allied health services offered by **Student Support Services** can **continue** face-to-face for individual clients as determined necessary by the site leader.



Out of School Hours Care will **resume** for before and after school care. Services will not offer a full day program. Services should work closely with schools to assess what the demand might be, to staff accordingly.



Early childhood programs operating from preschools or Children's Centres will be **paused**, including playgroups, DfE run parenting programs, Learning Together and Learning Together at Home.

FROM MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY

FEB 14

FULL RETURN TO FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING AND CARE

Modelling of the progress in reducing the current wave will be closely monitored by health and education officials. The intention is to return all students to face-to-face learning on Monday 14 February.

The majority of COVID safe measures will remain in place and adjustments will continue to be made as needed to maximise student and staff safety.



COVID SAFE MEASURES

JAN 31

THE FOLLOWING COVID SAFE MEASURES WILL BE IN PLACE FROM 31 JANUARY:



Anyone who is **unwell**, who are household/ close contacts from other exposures or people symptomatic must **not** be at school, preschool or childcare. This applies to staff and children.



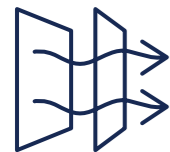
Vaccination

- All eligible students aged 5+ strongly recommended to be vaccinated.
- All staff, governing council members/ employees, contractors and volunteers (incl. parent volunteers) must be vaccinated in accordance with the Emergency Management Direction to be on site.



Masks

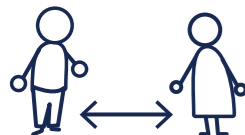
- are:
- required for adults, except when teaching
 - required for students in years 7 to 12
 - strongly recommended for students in years 3 to 6
 - medical exemptions also apply.



Ventilation, to be maximised by leaving doors/windows open, continued use of air conditioning (set to fresh air intake where available) and fans, including with doors and windows open.



Outdoor learning is encouraged where appropriate.



Physical distancing where possible.



Minimise **staff intermingling** (eg. use of staff room, online PD only).



Minimise **student and children intermingling indoors** (eg. across class groups).



Limit **non-essential visitors** on-site:

- allied health professionals, student support services and Local Education Teams are an exception.
- appropriate arrangements can be made for parents of children starting preschool or school, with COVID safe measures in place.



Temporarily postpone from now until week 4 **high risk activities** (eg interschool sport, choir), large gatherings (eg assemblies), external **activities** (eg camps and excursions).



Additional daily **cleaning** will continue.



Hand and respiratory **hygiene** measures must be followed, including making sanitiser and disposable face masks widely available on site.



Boarders can return to school at any time as long as there are appropriate hygiene and physical distancing measures in place in the boarding house.



More detailed operational advice will be provided by the department to schools and early childhood settings on activities that can continue and under what settings.



MANAGING POSITIVE CASES

We're working with SA Health on how positive COVID-19 cases will be managed in schools and early years settings, and the possible use of Rapid Antigen Testing for students and staff. More detail will be provided ahead of the start of term 1.



LEARNING FROM HOME SUPPORT

Schools will provide a quality remote learning program for all students in years 2 to 6 and years 9 to 11 during week 1 and 2.

The department will provide year level specific online lessons to support schools and help students learn remotely. Schools will work with their community to identify who needs ICT support.

More detail will be made available through schools.

