

27/04/2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 2, I hope that you and your family have kept well during the school holiday break.

I have no doubt you are aware of the Premier and Education Minister's media briefing earlier this week regarding learning in NSW Public Schools in Term 2.

This term we start off with two Staff development Days, Monday 27th April and Tuesday 28th April 2020. These are pupil free days. Teachers will participate in professional learning and school staff will plan for the term ahead.

The Remote Learning model will re-commence from Wednesday 29 April similar to the end of last term. Families who are able to keep their children home to learn remotely are asked to please do so to assist us with social distancing. Those students who are unable to learn from home are welcome to attend school.

To support the continuity of education for students and increase face-to-face teaching in NSW, a staged return to school model will be rolled out across Term 2. Each school has the flexibility to implement an appropriate model for their school setting incorporating the guidelines set out for schools by the department of education.

On Monday 11 May, we will move into Phase One of the managed return to school for students. In this phase, all NSW students will attend school one day per week and learn remotely 4 days per week. It is anticipated that all NSW students will increase the number of days at school before the end of the term, under the advice of NSW Health. There will be additional cleaning during the day at school and social distancing measures in place.

Mainsbridge School will adopt following model.

Our goal is to have every student attend school one day a week while implementing all health recommendations and guidelines with a priority of keeping all students and staff as safe as possible.

Our new model will begin in Week 3 - Monday 11th May – You will send your child to school one day a week on their allocated day.

If your child is in **Primary K-6** – Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, or Year 6 you will send your child to school on Tuesdays.

If your child is in **High School 7-12** – Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Year 11 or Year 12 you will send your child to school on Thursdays.

All students will continue *Learning from Home* four days a week and attend school on their designated one day each week.

This model allows us to increase our face to face teaching and also allows school communities to balance the needs of students and staff, their families, personal circumstances and workplaces during the pandemic. We understand the challenges of learning from home for our students and will continue to support you in all ways possible. There is a separate document attached to this letter titled “*A managed return to school. Guidelines for parents*”. This document will demonstrate the departments phased approach to returning to school.

School Transport –

School transport will continue. There may be disruptions to your original pick up and drop off times as social distancing rules apply on transport. It is very possible that your child's bus will have to make two trips to abide by social distancing regulations. Your support with this issue will help keep everyone safe and well.

For parents who drive their child to school we ask you to join our car queue and remain in your vehicle at both drop off time and pick up time. Our staff will collect your child from your car, eliminating possible adult to adult contact.

Most Mainsbridge staff will continue to attend school on rotating rosters. At this stage staff will be on site two days across the week. Other members of staff will continue to work from home five days per week. Currently, we cannot guarantee your child will be with their teacher on their allocated day. We have developed a timetable to support students returning one day a week to their classroom teacher but due to the unpredictability of COVID-19 and related issues classes may be split across different spaces and break times may be staggered. We will do our best as always, to ensure our teachers are well prepared and are aware of the learning and health requirements of all students in their care. First aid officers and medication officers are on site every day.

Please follow the health advice and keep your child home if they are unwell, it's important to keep all staff and students on site well. If your child attends school and is showing signs of being unwell you will be asked to pick them up and keep them home until they are well.

As routines and procedures continue to change we will pass on this information to you as soon as possible to support your family routines and plans.

Please don't hesitate to call the school if you would like to discuss any issues you may have.

Kind Regards

Nicole Katen
Principal (r)

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