



What you need to know about our return to school in Term 4

We're excited about our return to face-to-face learning and welcoming students and staff back onsite where we know the best learning happens. This is a short summary of what our parents and students can expect.

We have allocated student entry and exit gates for each grade group. (Please refer to attached map). Students will enter via their gate and move to their allocated class area in the playground and sit socially distanced in their class group.

To accommodate all students in the playground WPS will operate on a split timetable for K-2 and 3-6 for recess and lunch time.



Key dates for our staged return

While we know there is excitement about the return to school it's important that we stick to the staged return to give us time to be ready to welcome back students onsite. Students will return to face-to-face learning in the following order

- from 18 October – Kindergarten, Year 1
- from 25 October – Years 2-6 including 26R



Our school's COVID-safe operations

Our COVID-safe return to school plan is NSW Health approved and includes numerous effective practices to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. These practices include vaccinations, mask wearing, reduced mingling of student groups and staff, ventilation in classrooms and continued good hygiene and cleaning.



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.

K-2 Times:

From 8:35 – 9:00 Enter via your grade/ stage gate. Same gate used for exit at 3pm.

Year 1 – Gate 1 – Bag area near fixed equipment Rose Garden

Year 2 – Gate 2 – Bag area top end of Rose Garden

Kindergarten - Gate 6 – Class designated area in Area 1.

K-2 Recess:

Eating time: 11:00 – 11:10

Play time: 11:10 – 11:30

K-2 Lunch time:

Eating time: 1:00 – 1:10

Lunch First half: 1:10 – 1:30

Lunch Second half: 1:30 – 1:50

3-6 Times:

From 8:35 – 9:00 Enter via your grade / stage gate. Same gate used for exit at 3pm.

Year 3 – Gate 5 – Bag area adjacent to Block B

Year 4 – Gate 5 – Basketball court

Year 5 – Gate 3 – Back of hall COLA

Year 6 Gate 3 – Blue roof

3-6 Lunch time:

Eating time: 11:30 – 11:40

Lunch First half: 11:40 – 12:00

Lunch Second half: 12:00 – 12:20

3-6 Recess:

Eating time: 1:50 – 2:00

Play time: 2:00 – 2:20

Each grade cohort will play in designated playground areas for recess and lunch each day. Kindergarten will remain in Area 1. Other grades will rotate through a different playground area each day.



Mask wearing for students and staff

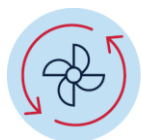
Masks are required to be worn on the school site by staff indoors and outdoors and are strongly recommended for students indoors and outdoors unless exercising or eating.

To support sustainable practice, we recommend that students wear cloth mask that can be washed regularly.



Vaccinations

All staff required on site supporting the return to school will need to be fully vaccinated from 18 October. Then from 8 November all staff, contractors, volunteers and students on student placement on a school site will need to be fully vaccinated, including Outside of School Hours Care staff.



Ventilation

Having open or well-ventilated spaces reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 because infectious particles are more quickly diffused in the open air. The department will continue to work with NSW Health to provide us with advice and guidance on maintaining good ventilation in our school and we will make use of our outdoor spaces wherever practical.



School activities

During Term 4 many school-based activities will remain on hold until NSW Health advise otherwise. This includes large celebrations like assemblies, presentation days and graduations, arts and sports events.



Covid Communication

Parents and students will be notified if a decision is made to close the school due to a confirmed case of COVID-19. During this time we will continue to provide learning from home activities and we will let you know when we can return to face-to-face learning.

Please ensure you have downloaded the Skoolbag App for WPS communication.



Preschool and out of school hours care

Out of school hours care, vacation care settings and preschools operating on school sites will follow the same COVID-safe guidelines as public schools including the requirement to be fully vaccinated from 8 November.



Orientation and transition to school

Onsite orientations and transition programs are not currently allowed in person on school sites until we are advised differently by NSW Health. We'll share more information in the coming weeks about our school's virtual orientation and transition program.

Willoughby PS Kindergarten 2022 Transition to school virtual information will accessible on Monday 18 October 2021 from midday. We are hopeful that we will be able to host our new students onsite later in the term – we will confirm at a later date.



GATE 1

GATE 2

GATE 3

GATE 4

Year 1

Year 2

Years 5 & 6

bike access

OAKVILLE RD

OAKVILLE RD

EQUIPMENT

YEAR 1
BAG
AREA

ROSE GARDEN

YEAR 2
BAG
AREA

BLUE ROOF

YEAR 6
BAG AREA

ADMIN GND LVL

Lvl 2

Lvl 1

Lvl 1

Ground

Lvl 1

GATE 9

MEDWAY LN

STAFF PARKING

Gate 1

C BLOCK

HOPSCOTCH ALLEY

M BLOCK

HALL

I BLOCK

Lvl 2

Lvl 1

LIBRARY GND LVL

D BLOCK

Ground

Lvl 1

GATE 8

Gate 2

MUSIC RFF LVL 1

TOILETS

L BLOCK

COLA

AREA 2

YEAR 5
BAG AREA

HALL
COLA

AREA 1

KINDY
BAG AREA

GATE 7

EQUIPMENT

MINI OVAL

AREA 3
YEAR 4
BAG AREA

YEAR 3
BAG AREA

2-6R
BAG AREA

B BLOCK

Ground

Lvl 1

TOILETS

CANTEEN

J BLOCK

EQUIPMENT

COUNCIL LANEWAY

KEARY ST

GATE 5 — Years 3 & 4

GATE 6 — Kindergarten

Before school, students are to enter from designated grade or stage gate as indicated above and sit with their bag in their grade bag shown on map. Students will need to bring a book to read. There is NO before school play and no mixing of grades.



We are excited to welcome students back to on-site learning. All students should be at school on the date indicated for their year group unless they are currently unwell, or have been told to isolate by NSW Health. Teachers will be marking attendance and will be in contact with you if your child is absent. There will be only one learning package delivered, which will be face to face for all students from the 25th October, 2021 (with Kindergarten and Year 1 returning on 18th October.) Only essential visitors are allowed on school sites, no parents will be able to attend site at this point. Please return any technology equipment that you may have borrowed to the library.

What we're doing to minimise risk at Willoughby PS:

	Classroom	Playground	Movement around the school	Shared Spaces (Toilets, Music room, Canteen, Library, Learning Support, EALD)
School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *DoE has checked all windows and fans are operational to increase ventilation. *DoE has provided additional hygiene products. *PBEL lessons developed to support safe and hygienic practices. *Additional enhanced cleaning in all high touch areas *Outdoor settings will be used for learning where practicable. *All staff on-site, including teachers, administration staff, SLSOs, GA, executive, canteen, OOSH, casual teachers will be double-vaccinated, wearing masks and practicing safe hygiene practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Staggered break times operating on separate K-2 & 3-6 timetables. *Cohorts will be allocated separate areas to play. *Additional enhanced cleaning in all high touch areas *One cohort will be using playground equipment per day, with cleaning at the end of each day. *Designated areas for lining up before school and after recess and lunch for each class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Entry and exit points clearly labelled and followed for each grade (where learning packs have been picked up – see map attached). *A-Z meeting points along Keary and Oakville fence line for families for each family to choose a meeting point to avoid crowding at gates. *Additional enhanced cleaning in all high touch areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Designated toilets to stage cohorts (unless need is urgent) *Additional enhanced cleaning in all high touch areas. *Online canteen lunch orders <i>only</i> - distributed to students. There will be no on-site canteen for face-to face purchases.

Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Leaving windows open, fans and air conditioners on to increase ventilation. *Wearing face masks. *Teach and monitor routines and systems to ensure regular hand washing and hygiene practices, including encouraging student wearing of face masks. *Expectations in the classroom revisited. *Encourage staggered toilet breaks at designated blocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Teachers supervising in the playground will be with their cohort where possible. *Expectations in the playground revisited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Ensuring systems of entry/exit for movement around the school being followed. *Staggered entry/exit of each class into buildings. *Teachers meeting classes at their designated area to enter/exit classroom and supervising all movement. *Expectations for movement around the school revisited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Expectations for use of shared spaces revisited.
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wipe down desks and equipment at the end of the day. *Supply and use own equipment e.g. pencils, head phones. *Wash hands before entering the classroom. *Students will participate in PBEL lessons that support safe and hygienic practices *Bring a labelled water bottle to use across all areas of the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wipe down equipment after use. *Wash hands before and after break times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Supply and use own equipment e.g. pencils, head phones. *Wash hands when entering the classroom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wipe down desks and equipment at the end of the lesson.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR COMING BACK TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Your teacher is looking forward to seeing you and we know that you are looking forward to seeing your friends.

Sometimes learning from home felt easy, sometimes it felt a bit hard. Everyone has a different learning from home story to tell. Here's some helpful tips for you as you get ready to return to school.



GET READY

Check your uniform and shoes still fit, and repack your school bag. Your school will have hand sanitiser and masks, but you can take your own too!



BE SAFE

Safety first – wear your mask. Sneeze or cough into your elbow, put used tissues in the bin, and wash your hands during the day and before you eat.



BE KIND AND PATIENT

Everyone will settle back to school in a different way. Showing kindness and being patient with the people around you will help everyone feel better.



SCHOOL WORK

Try your best. Let a teacher, parent or a carer know what you found easy or hard when working from home. They are there to help you.



FEELINGS

It can help to talk. It's ok to feel a little unsure, worried, nervous, happy, angry or any feeling in between. Talking to your parent or a carer, your teacher or other staff is important when you feel unsettled or are worried about a friend.



HAVE SOME FUN

Your teacher wants you to enjoy being back at school. Join in the classroom and break-time fun, and play outside with your friends and classmates.



EAT

Food is fuel for your body and brain. Don't forget to eat breakfast and grab a healthy lunch and keep your water bottle topped up!



SLEEP

Nothing beats a good sleep. Go to bed early and keep phones and other devices in another room, so you're not disturbed. It might take a little time to get back into your routine.