

**Text

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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.



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 – department preschool, Kindergarten, Year 1
* from 25 October – all remaining year groups.



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.



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.

This will involve staggered recess and lunch breaks for cohort groups:

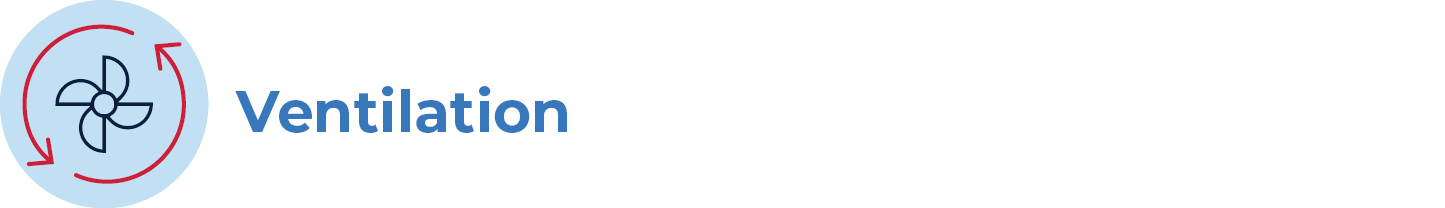
* K, 1 and 2
* 3,4,5 and 6



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



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.