

Dear parent and carers,

As promised, I am writing with additional information about the return of students to our school campus. First, a reminder about the dates for our phased return.

Commencing 25 October (Week 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool and kindergarten • Years 1 and 2 • Year 6 • Out of school hours care (OSHC)
Commencing 1 November (Week 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 3, 4 and 5
<i>From weeks 1 to 4 of term, onsite supervision and care continues to be available for vulnerable children and young people whose parents are essential workers.</i>	

Drawing on national and local health advice we have developed a return to school plan which has three key priorities:

- the health and safety of staff and young people,
- the mental and emotional well-being of students and staff, and
- ensuring continuity of learning.

Below is an outline of [ACT Health Guidelines](#) that schools are required to implement to ensure effective COVID-19 measures are in place.

Use of Check in CBR app	All staff and visitors must check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. Parents and carers cannot enter school grounds except for an essential reason. Visitors must call to make an appointment, or in advance of attendance. All visitors must report to the front office.
Student illness	Staff and students who are unwell are not able to attend school. Students who present unwell will be required to go home.
Hygiene	Schools will maintain and promote appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene practices. Students will need to wash hands and use hand sanitisers throughout the day. Students will not be allowed to share food or drink.

Masks	<p>Staff, and visitors must wear a face mask on campus. Students in years 3-6 are allowed to wear a mask if they wish to do so*. Students in Preschool to year 2 are not required to wear a mask. Masks may not be suitable for students with a disability or medical condition and schools will make allowances for those students not to wear masks.</p> <p><i>* Students will be required to wear their personal masks. Masks will be available at school for those who require them. Disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i></p>
Physical Distancing	<p>Physical distancing between children and young people is not always possible, particularly in single classrooms and school environments. It is however important for limiting the transmission of COVID 19. To promote physical distancing, we may adjust learning programs, breaktimes, our timetable as well as pick up and drop off arrangements. More specific information about what this means for your child is included below.</p>
Environmental cleaning	<p>Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch services, frequently used objects, and play equipment.</p>
Ventilation	<p>All schools have been assessed to increase fresh air circulation and this may involve changes to ventilation, modified HVAC system settings and maximising the use of outdoor learning spaces.</p>
Managing suspected cases	<p>We are prepared to respond to a positive COVID-19 case on campus, should the need arise. ACT Health will provide direction to the school and community, which may result in a full or partial school closure. A student who presents with symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated with suitable supervision, and parents will be required to collect their child. Symptomatic students will be required to wear a mask.</p>
Will schools have routine testing for COVID-19?	<p>Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should get tested immediately. ACT Health is not recommending routine COVID-19 testing of children, young people or staff using rapid antigen testing.</p>
Wellbeing supports	<p>Wellbeing and learning supports, such as face to face appointments with the school psychologist or access to a Learning Support Assistant, will recommence with the return to school.</p> <p>For parents and carers of students with a medical vulnerability: if you wish the school to make reasonable adjustments for the safe return of your child, you must consult a GP and provide medical advice to that effect. Where adjustments can't be made, the school will support your child to learn from home.</p>

To further support the ACT Health Guidelines our school is making the following adjustments.

Drop off and pick up	<p>Where possible we encourage you to walk or ride to school to ease the congestion in the car park.</p> <p><u>Drop Off</u> - Please review with the map attached</p> <p>We ask that you do not enter the school grounds unless your child requires your support. Please say your goodbyes where possible outside of the school gates and direct your child into school through the open gates.</p> <p>If you anticipate difficulties please contact our executive team, we are here to help.</p> <p>Teaching Staff will be on duty in the senior and junior areas, and preschool, from 8.45am and members of the executive and junior teaching team will be roaming the junior school carpark and lower grassed area near Bilsen Place to ensure students can safely navigate the carpark to enter the school grounds with confidence. Preschool staff will be available to facilitate drop off at the Bilsen's Pl gate from 8.45am.</p> <p>One change to note is that we are now asking year two to meet at the lower playground in the senior area of the school – see map. The intention is to assist with bottlenecks and adults distancing.</p> <p>When the bell goes children will be directed to line up by the teacher on duty. Please avoid the front of the school and we ask no children enter through the front office before 9am.</p> <p>No students or parents are to be inside classrooms before and after school and we are asking for all our families to maintain social distancing and good COVID safe precautions during this time.</p> <p><u>Pick Up</u> - Please review with the map attached for designated pick-up areas for Kindergarten and Year 1 students</p> <p>The oval or the bottom green space near Bilsen Pl is the best option for pick up. Gates will be open to alleviate bottle necks and hopefully ease congestion.</p>
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Preschool – to help alleviate congestion and support ease of access, students will be brought to the Bilsen PI gate by staff for collection. Parents wishing to collect students early, from 2.30 onwards, are asked to please contact Kerry Millington. Kerry.millington@ed.act.edu.au or via the front office.

Teachers in Kindergarten and year one will be walking the students to the bottom green space and parents are asked to wait in the designated area that will be clearly marked on the fence.

Teachers in years 2 and 3 will be lining students up at the oval and students can either be collected or leave from there.

Senior students in year 4, 5 and 6 will be let go from their classrooms onto the basketball area and asked not to move through the school.

All teachers will remain with their students until they are collected by siblings, adults, or have permission to make their own way home, and/or meet their family at a designated meeting point away from those nominated.

For those students who collect siblings we ask that they do this through the bottom green space and not the classroom.



<p>Hygiene routines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand sanitiser and anti-bacterial wipes will be available in all classrooms • Teachers will reinforce and revisit good Hygiene procedures throughout the day, and students will be asked to use sanitiser at the beginning and end of each break and after toileting and eating • Handwashing with soap and water will also be encouraged throughout the day and at the beginning and end of transitions, ie. just before and after lunch and recess. 												
<p>Teaching and learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our teachers, LSAs and relief staff are attached to designated year level spaces, Preschool to year 6. Staff will limit their movements within their designated workspaces. • There will be some slight adjustments to the specialist programs to minimise staff moving across the school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mrs Nand will utilise the small group classroom ○ Mrs Fenson will provide PE & health lessons in the junior playground for years 1 – 3, ○ Mrs Atkinson will provide PE & Health in the senior grassed area for years 4 – 6 ○ Ms S will deliver her French lessons in appropriate year classrooms years 3 – 6 ○ Mrs Delaney will provide instruction in senior classrooms • Students will be assigned individual desks and movement within the classroom will be limited. • Senior students are allocated individual chrome books which can be kept in their book boxes during the day and wiped clean and placed in the charging trolley by individual students at the end of the day. • Chromebooks/Ipads used by junior students will be wiped clean by classroom LSA at the end of the activity. • Gross motor activities for junior students will be replaced with outside physical movement activities. • Combined Physical Band practice and lessons will be postponed until we hear from the IMP 												
<p>Break times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The junior and senior school break times are listed below <table border="1" data-bbox="491 1597 1417 2024"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="491 1597 716 1666"><i>Time</i></th> <th data-bbox="716 1597 1417 1666"><i>K-2</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1666 716 1736">9:00am-11:00am</td> <td data-bbox="716 1666 1417 1736">Class</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1736 716 1805">11:00 –11:05 am</td> <td data-bbox="716 1736 1417 1805">Eating time – Kindergarten in the courtyard, years 1 on the junior school bitumen, year 2 on the lower grass</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1805 716 1874">11:05-11:30:am</td> <td data-bbox="716 1805 1417 1874">Junior Playground</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1874 716 1944">11:30-1:00pm</td> <td data-bbox="716 1874 1417 1944">Class</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1944 716 2024">1:00pm- 1:10pm</td> <td data-bbox="716 1944 1417 2024">Eating time – Kindergarten in the courtyard, years 1 on the junior school bitumen, year 2 on the lower grass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Time</i>	<i>K-2</i>	9:00am-11:00am	Class	11:00 –11:05 am	Eating time – Kindergarten in the courtyard, years 1 on the junior school bitumen, year 2 on the lower grass	11:05-11:30:am	Junior Playground	11:30-1:00pm	Class	1:00pm- 1:10pm	Eating time – Kindergarten in the courtyard, years 1 on the junior school bitumen, year 2 on the lower grass
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	1:10pm- 1:50pm	Junior Playground
	1:40pm- 3:00pm	Class
	Playground cleaning to occur following each break	
	Time	3-6
	9:00 --11:00am	Class
	11:00 – 11:05am	Eating time – years 5 & 6 on the basketball court, years 3 – 4 on the upper grass area
	11:05 -11.30am	Years 5/6 on the basketball court and upper senior grassed area, Years 3&4 on the Oval and lower senior grassed area
	11.30 - 1.00pm	Class
	1:00pm- 1:10pm	Eating time – years 5 & 6 on the basketball court, years 3 – 4 on the upper grass area
	1:10 – 1.50pm	Years 5/6 on the basketball court and upper senior grassed area, Years 3&4 on the Oval and lower senior grassed area
	1.50 - 3.00 pm	Class
	Playground cleaning to occur following each break	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The library will not be opened during lunch breaks 	
	Before and After School Care	Educators have been working for the duration of the lockdown. They will continue to follow the Organisation's COVID Response Plan, as well as adhere to ACT Health requirements. Masks are mandatory, both inside and outside, they will sign in using the school's check-in code each time they work, use appropriate hand & respiratory health practices, as well as maintain social distancing from adults. Dropping off and collecting the children will occur however the educators will not enter buildings.
School canteens	NA	

We will continue to review and adjust these measures based on the most up to date advice from ACT Health.

Remember, all adults and children aged 12 years and above are eligible for vaccination. If your child is eligible but not yet vaccinated, we encourage you to book them in by calling the COVID-19 vaccination line on 5124 7700 daily between 7am-7pm. Bookings can also be made with some [GP clinics and pharmacies](#).

We understand that there has been considerable change and uncertainty for our students during the pandemic, and as we transition back to school. I'd remind you that you and your child can book an appointment with our Telehealth Support Service on 02 6205 1559 between 9.00am and 4.30pm weekdays. With the return to school, your child will also be able to organise face to face sessions with the school psychologist.

For more information about the return to schools, I would recommend visiting [the Education Directorate's website](#).

You can keep up to date with the latest health information, advice and resources on the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and understanding as we return to face-to-face schooling.

We look forward to seeing all our students back at school.

My regards,

John Manders

Wanniassa Hills Primary School