



2021 School Year Important information to begin the year

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope that the summer holidays have provided you and your families with the opportunity to rest, recover and relax in anticipation of an exciting 2021. The weather initially wasn't wonderful, but we certainly have seen some beautiful days of late; let's hope that stays around well into the new school year.

After an escalation of COVID-19 cases throughout the holidays, which included the Wollongong area, the NSW Department of Education has revised the operating protocols to begin the 2021 school year. The following information may be helpful as you plan for your child's transition back to school:

Information for students in Kindergarten

- School will begin on Tuesday 2 February 2021 for students in Kindergarten. For your child's first day at school, set times have been allocated for arrival. Please refer to the information that was sent home for your child at the end of last year.
- Parents of students in Kindergarten are permitted to enter the school grounds to drop off their child to their designated playground/meeting area, but must not remain on site. Once at the drop off point, we ask that you depart the school grounds immediately. Parents are not to enter any buildings, apart from the Admin building.
- Your child's first day will conclude at 2:30pm, with children able to be picked up from the synthetic grass area. Once you have your child, please depart the school grounds immediately.
- Staff will be supervising all entry/exit gates in the morning and afternoon to ensure student safety.

Please see the table on page 3 of this document that outlines the organisation for you child as they begin school this year.

Information for students in Years 1 to 6

- School will resume on Friday 29 January 2021 for students in Years 1 to 6.
- The school day will begin at 9:00am, with playground supervision from 8:30am. Rolls will be marked and submitted as close to 9:00am as possible, so please ensure your child is arriving to school prior to the 9:00am bell, where possible.
- To begin the year, students will return to their 2020 class, with their 2020 class teacher (where possible). This is due to the fact that we are required to confirm that all students are returning (or starting in the case of Kindergarten), before we can move students into class. At this stage, we believe that students will remain with their 2020 classes until at least Tuesday 2 February.
- Parents of students in Year 1 and 2 (2021) are permitted to enter the school grounds to drop off/pick up their child to/from their designated playground/meeting area, but must not remain on site. Once at the drop off/pick up point, we ask that you depart the school grounds immediately. Parents are not to enter any buildings, apart from the Admin building. We are strongly encouraging parents of Year 1 and 2

students, where possible, to maintain the current routine of dropping off/picking up at the gate. Many parents and students have expressed how much they enjoy this and we also believe, as a school, that this works very well.

- Parents of students in Years 3 to 6 (2021) are not permitted on site to drop off or pick up their child, unless they have a child in K to 2 (2021). Drop off and pick up for students in Years 3 to 6 remains at one of our three entry/exit gates.
- Staff will be supervising all entry/exit gates in the morning and afternoon to ensure student safety.

Please see the table on page 3 of this document that outlines the organisation for you child as they return to school this year.

Information for all families

- Parents and carers are reminded that students must not attend school if they are unwell, even with the mildest symptoms. Students must return a negative COVID-19 test prior to returning to school.
- Staff and students are not required to wear masks while at school. Staff and students are permitted to wear their own mask if they choose.
- Parents may enter the school to meet with staff at a pre-organised appointment.
- It is imperative that parents maintain social distancing whether waiting inside or outside of the school gates.
- The school bubblers will now be turned on. We encourage students to bring filled water bottles from home that they can refill, when needed.
- Swimming and other sporting carnivals can proceed with a COVID-19 safety plan in place. Information will be communicated early in Week 2 regarding our 2021 School Swimming Carnival.
- Enhanced cleaning measures will continue throughout Term 1.

Please keep in mind that depending on the COVID-19 situation, tightening or easing of restrictions may occur. As this information comes to us via the NSW Department of Education, we will do our best to disseminate the information to our community, in a timely manner.

While 2021 holds some uncertainty as to how it will unfold, what is certain is that our staff are excited and prepared for the upcoming school year and are looking forward to a successful and enjoyable year for our students and their families.

See you soon!

Tim Fisher
Principal

Table of organisation to begin 2021 – Kindergarten to Year 6

Please note: “Year” refers to your child’s 2021 Year

Friday 29 January and Monday 1 February only

Year	Arrival	Departure Time	Departure Location
Year 1	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	2:40pm + siblings	2020 departure gate
Year 2 and Year 3	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	2:50pm + siblings	Agreed meeting point with siblings and/or parents
Year 4, 5 and 6 (without siblings in Year 1 to 3)	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	3:00pm	Agreed meeting point with siblings and/or parents

Tuesday 2 February to Friday 5 February

Year	Arrival	Departure Time	Departure Location
Kindergarten (Tues 2 Feb only)	Allocated Time	2:30pm + siblings	Synthetic Grass
Kindergarten (Wed 3 Feb to Fri 5 Feb)	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	2:30pm + siblings	Synthetic Grass
Year 1	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	2:40pm + siblings	2020 departure gate
Year 2 and 3	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	2:50pm + siblings	Agreed meeting point with siblings and/or parents
Year 4, 5 and 6 (without siblings in Year K to 3)	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	3:00pm	Agreed meeting point with siblings and/or parents

Monday 8 February until further notice

Year	Arrival	Departure Time	Departure Location
Kindergarten	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	2:50pm + siblings	Allocated gate to be communicated to parents once classes are confirmed
Year 1 to Year 6 (without siblings in Kindergarten)	Between 8:30am and 9:00am	3:00pm	Agreed meeting point with siblings and/or parents