

Wednesday 19 August 2020

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

As you would be aware, updated guidelines for school operations have been introduced to NSW schools. These guidelines are to limit the contact should any member of the school community test positive to COVID19. Please be aware of the new conditions for students who have even mild flu like symptoms. Following is the relevant advice from NSW Department of Education for Hannans Road Public School.

Attendance

- In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded **NOT** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms.
- Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home. It is important that we have up to date contact information for you and an emergency contact. If we cannot contact child's parent or care giver we will contact the emergency contact to come to the school and pick up the student.
- **NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.**
- **Students and staff with flu like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school.**
- Schools are not required to conduct widespread temperature screening or mandate the wearing of a masks
- Students should be at school unless they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe, or they are currently unwell.

School Activities

Additional safety measures for school activities have been put in place to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools for the remainder of Term 3.

- Where possible, students will stay within their relevant cohort group (i.e. class, year group, or stage) for all learning activities within their school in order to limit close contacts to the relevant student cohort. At the moment, lunchtime art club and film club are on hold.

- PSSA and any interschool sport has been cancelled for 2020 by the PSSA.
- Parents/carers and other non-essential visitors are not allowed on the school site.
- All group singing (choirs) and/or other chanting activities, as well as the use of wind instruments in group settings, are not permitted.

Activities that may take place

- Use the school library
- Engage in sporting activities within school and within restrictions eg: staying within stage groups, cleaning of equipment
- Canteens and uniform shops can open at principal's discretion
- School assemblies (limited to 15 minutes and no external visitors)
- Students may attend other schools for essential curriculum related reasons or placements (e.g. auditions or placement tests)
- School photos
- SRE/SEE lessons – at Hannans Road we have one scripture group at the moment that meets the requirements regarding number of students and hygiene practices
- P&C meetings and events must be on-line only.
- Parent/teacher meetings will be online unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion.

Activities on hold for Term 3

- Kindergarten orientation
- Excursions
- Face to face professional learning for staff.
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events
- Parent and carer volunteers – e.g. parent reading helpers (note: canteen and uniform shop volunteers are permitted)
- School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school BBQs, large parent information evenings, and large onsite cultural events.
- Interschool sport, drama, debating and other events that are not within the local community or zone including gala days and regional sporting carnivals.

Physical distancing

Physical distancing of students in schools is not required under the AHPPC guidelines. All teachers, support staff and parents must maintain physical distance from each other (1.5m). Parents should ensure school pick up and drop off arrangements enable them to physically distance from one another and from staff.

Hygiene

Schools will promote the need to follow good hygiene practices such as:

- regularly washing hands
- avoiding sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.

School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Your school will continue to receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Target areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap. Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.

Reporting and Assessment

You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (Week 6, Term 3). This will be a simplified version of the report you normally receive.