

Managed Return to School

Friday 8 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, from Monday we are beginning Phase 1 of the Department of Education's (DoE) Managed Return to School plan. In this phase students return to school one day per week with schools having autonomy to implement this phase for their school context. In this phase, we are asked to limit the number of students attending each day, staying within 25% of the student population and 10 students in a class. These are not hard and fast numbers, and depend on the size of classrooms and the ability to social distance.

At Hannans Road we are able to, in most cases, organise for family groups to come to school on the same day and work with their class teacher. We believe it is important that when students return to school that they have the opportunity to engage with their class teacher and as a small school, we have been able to do this in most cases.

So what will one day a week look like?

- Half a class will return on one day and the other half on the second day. In some classrooms such as our seniors this will mean there may be 13 students in the class, however 5/6K and 3/4A have larger rooms and will be able to accommodate this. 4/5M will work in the library to ensure they have room to socially distance in the classroom. We have looked carefully at the numbers to ensure safe practice. We understand some students are unable to work from home. Students who attend on a non-rostered day will be supervised in completing their set tasks online but will not be working with their teacher in their classroom.
- Students will complete the same work at school or at home – an English task set by their teacher, a maths task set by their teacher, a task from their creative and critical thinking matrix and most likely a sport/art/wellbeing activity. Being at school provides an opportunity for students to connect with their teacher and classmates, get feedback on their work, and clarify anything. Teachers will not be online with students at home on the days they have students at school.
- All classrooms have soap and handtowel for student use. The department is organising the distribution of hand sanitiser to schools and this will be in classrooms for use by students and teachers. Our plan over the coming weeks is to train students in the best hygiene protocols so that these become a natural part of what we do at school. These practices include washing hands when entering the classroom, during learning time if they use items that are not their own, before and after lunch and recess, and upon returning to the classroom after going to the toilet. All toilet blocks have soap in them for use during lunchtime. We are also advised that students should use their own equipment such as pencils, sharpeners, rulers. Students will need to bring these items with them.
- The department has organised enhanced cleaning of schools. Play equipment will be out of bounds for the moment as we are unable to clean this during the day. The DoE health information states that bubblers should only be used to refill drink bottles. We encourage all students to bring their own labelled drink bottle, we will have some drink bottles for students who do not have one, but students need to bring these to school every day.
- We have asked that students not arrive at school before 9:30am, and gates will open at this time. We are also using both gates to enter and leave the school. There are a few reasons for this including



being able to better monitor social distancing between students and between parents, to monitor the flow of students into the school and to ensure that they wash their hands in the classroom upon arrival at school. Students whose parents are working and need to leave students earlier can contact the school so that we can make arrangements. Students who attend before and after school care will be catered for within these guidelines.

Teachers will be in contact with students through Class Dojo or by phone to remind them of their day to return to school and what to bring.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire staff of Hannans Road for their incredible work in supporting our learners during this time. I am fortunate to have such an amazing team. I would also like to thank you, our parents and carers, for your incredible efforts in supporting your children at home. I see the work they are doing and I am so proud of our school community. It is truly at times like this that we see the true spirit and commitment of our school community.

We are doing our best to ensure the safety of our students, staff and parents, and we appreciate your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ring the school or contact your child's teacher.

Thanks

C. Butler
Principal