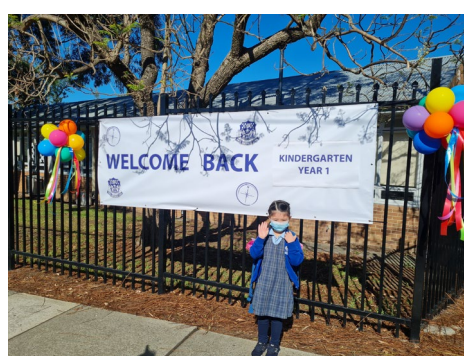
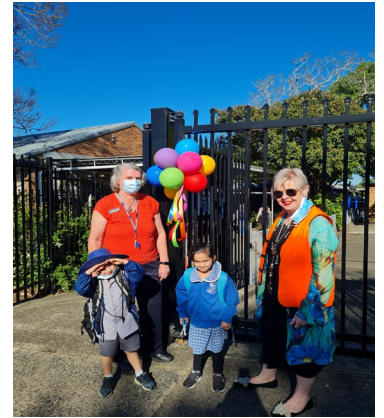




# NORTHMEAD NEWSBREAK



## AT A GLANCE!

### 2021 DATES TERM 4

- ↙ Monday 25 October  
Level 3 School Status  
**We are all back!**
- ↙ WORLD TEACHERS DAY  
#BrightFuture  
Please wear Bright/  
Sparkly Clothes on  
Friday 29 October
- ↙ Year 6 Photo 4YearBook  
Thurs 4 November (done  
by school) – full school  
uniform if possible
- ↙ OC TEST Wednesday  
17 November – at school.
- ↙ P&C ZOOM Meeting  
Wednesday 17 November  
7pm
- ↙ Intention to apply  
Selective HS 2023 closes  
17 November (note sent  
to Y5 families 25/10). See  
note later in Newsletter  
Test: 10 March 2023
- ↙ Last day Term 4 for  
students: Thurs 16/12
- ↙ Staff Dev. Day Fri 17/12
- ↙ 2022 – Term 1  
Staff return Fri Jan 28 –  
for 2 x Staff Dev Days  
(28 & 31 Jan)  
Year 1-6 return:  
Tuesday 1 February



Dear Northmead P.S. Community:

## WE ARE ALL BACK TOGETHER!!!

How wonderful that we are AT LAST all back at school together! The smiles on all student and teachers' faces have been so very joyous to witness. Your children have settled back into on-school site learning exceptionally well and their teachers have been so pleased to be able to teach all their students face-to-face! We are maximising time in this beautiful weather to also conduct learning sessions outside and give our students regular wellbeing and active breaks as they regain their stamina for learning at school and returning to class routines. Following our Ventilation Audit report and a follow-up air-volume audit I requested, every classroom is able to accommodate students beyond the current individual class numbers. I realise many students (and teachers) find this Spring season challenging. It is crucial that every classroom has windows and doors open to maximise cross-ventilation. We are able to have air-conditioners operating as well, but we must also have air ventilation from outside. I will be guided by the Department on other enhancements for ventilation and room temperature as we enter the warmer summer months. We are also delighted that we will be able to hold Year 6 special events such as the Farewell Dinner off-site and an outdoor Graduation Ceremony following COVID-Safe guidelines, which will be communicated to our Year 6 families very soon. Unfortunately, we are not able to hold Years K-5 End-of-Year Presentation Assemblies with families present. We will video these events for families as we did in 2020.

### DROP-OFF/PICK-UP | COVID SAFE

Thank you for your cooperation with drop-off and pick-up arrangements. We did have a few "glitches" where siblings left by different gates, but we hope this has now been clarified for families to minimise the "gate pick-up locations". Please ensure you talk with your child/children about the gate you will meet them at. Kindergarten and Year 1 students MUST be picked up by parents from Kleins Road driveway unless they are picked up by siblings and wait to leave together at the silver seats in Area A till the 3pm bell via NOOSH or Moss Street. **We will not send Kindergarten or Year 1 students out to the Kiss and Drop independently.**

We realise the challenges moving over 700 students to leave safely in different cohorts in the afternoons due to our busy roads and we thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience as you wait for your students **outside the school grounds**. Please consider/note:

- \* if possible, find a safe place **away from the gates** to wait for/meet your child in the afternoon. For independent students, drop them off a short distance from the school so they can walk to school or meet you safely in the afternoon away from the school;
- \* **late arrivals/early departure and medication delivery:** Please call the school office or "buzz" at Moxhams Road gate. An Admin staff member will meet you at the Moxhams Road gate to escort your child to or from class and pick up any medication. **Parents are not permitted to accompany their student into the Admin building;**

### ARE YOU MOVING ELSEWHERE 2022? PLEASE LET US KNOW!

In order for us to be up-to-date for 2022 class planning, we ask that **families with students in K-Y5 who already know they will not be returning in 2022 to inform the school by phone call or email** as soon as possible. A form you can use that appears later in this Newsletter. Thank you to the families who have already contacted the school. Please do not just inform

*I have always believed as a teacher and school leader, that is the greatest privilege to be a teacher and seek to make a difference to every child. And so, to honour World Teacher's Day, I leave you with this quote on this amazing profession that influences the future:*

"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination and instil a love of learning". Brad Henry

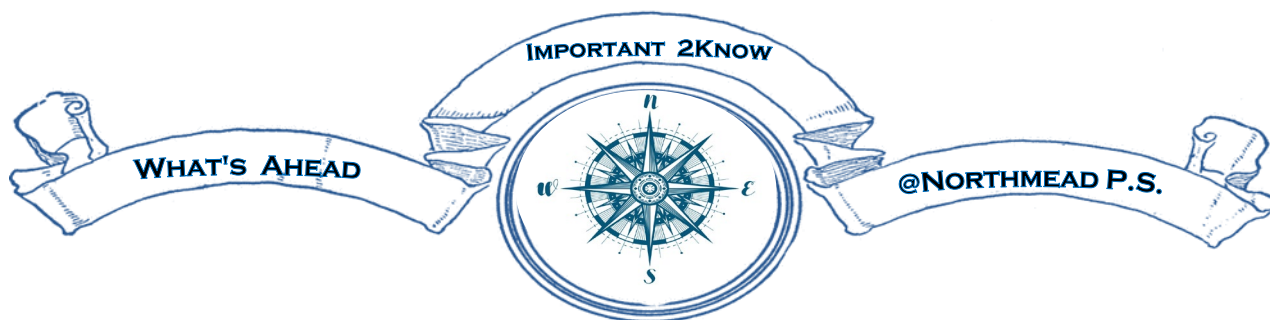
C.S. Lewis

*I look forward to chatting with you in the next Northmead Newsbreak ...*

...*Anno Fuzzy* (Principal)

Thought for the Week





## COVID SAFE DROP-OFF/PICK-UP TERM 4 – PLEASE TALK WITH STUDENTS ABOUT PICK-UP ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AFTERNOON – PARTICULARLY FOR SIBLINGS

When arriving students in Kindergarten and Year 1 **will move to the Hall/Canteen area** and be supervised by a teacher from 8:30am. Other Students in Years 3-4 and 5-6 are in **Area A**. Year 3 and 4 under COLA outside 1/2JL and 1/2M and in front of office. Years 5 and 6 play in Area A near Block C (Stage 3) and area adjacent to Moxhams Road Fence. Please adhere to staff instructions when picking up your child. **Please do not seek to have a conversation with your child's teacher when picking up in the afternoon. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, please email or phone the school so your teacher can make an appointment to ring you at a mutually convenient time.**

### Pick Up Gates:

- \* Kindergarten will be picked up at **2:45pm** from Kleins Road gate
- \* Year 1 will be picked up **from 3:00pm** at Kleins Road gate
- \* Year 2, 5 and 6 will leave via the Bus Gate on Kleins Road
- \* Years 3 and 4 leave via Moxhams Road
- \* Kiss and Drop – please stay in your car till your child/children meet you. Please observe all traffic rules.
- \* **Students meeting up with younger siblings to walk home or meet parents together:**
  - ↳ **At 2:50pm** - pick up K or Year 1 students from COLA area at 1/2JL and 1/2M or Kleins Rd Driveway for Kindergarten (they are in class groups);
  - ↳ Move to silver seats in Area A and WAIT until School Bell;
  - ↳ Meet other brothers/sisters Y2-6 at silver seats in Area A;
  - ↳ Leave at 3pm via the NOOSH gate or Moss Street.
- \* Students/siblings who walk home independently and are not meeting parents may also use Moss Street

Thank you for your cooperation with pick-up arrangements and gate locations.

## STAGGERED RETURN TO SCHOOL – COVID-19 UPDATE

- \* **Masks are strongly recommended for all students, at all times, indoors and outdoors.** For more information, refer to Masks and face coverings.
- \* Schools may use additional flexible staffing arrangements to support the delivery of face-to-face and home-based learning for that cohort. For example, the following members of staff may be asked to provide additional support: EAL/D, RFF teachers, Learning and Support Teachers, librarians, SLSOs etc.
- \* Playground areas are staggered by cohort.
- \* **All canteen orders are to be done via the QKR app or ordered by students in the morning (please see Jo's Canteen update later in the Newsletter). There will be no access to the Canteen by students at recess or lunch. All pre-orders will be delivered to classrooms.**
- \* Within each cohort, students should maintain strict personal hygiene and physical distancing wherever possible.
- \* **Parents/carers will not be permitted on site** - you may not access the school site but remain outside the school gates
- \* please obey the road rules and parking signs as they are still in operation
- \* please take care driving in the school zone as more children may be walking or cycling to school
- \* try to find a safe place away from the gate to wait and meet their child in the afternoon
- \* follow school's arrangements for students who arrive late to school – **enter Moxhams Road Gate**
- \* follow wet weather arrangements to minimise amounts of people in one area
- \* drop-off independent children away from the school so they can safely walk into the school
- \* walk child/ren to school if possible, or park away from the school and walk to stop congestion at kiss and drop zones



## COVID-19 | NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | SCHOOL SPORT | UPDATES

Dear Northmead families,

**School sport** will be undertaken in defined cohorts as part of re-establishing regular school timetabling and routines, and for the wellbeing of all students. No more than 50 people (students/teachers/organising personnel) may participate in one group.

School sports across different cohorts **is discouraged** and schools are not permitted to enter into inter-school competitions during school hours until 2022.

### **Sport within an individual school:**

School sport may proceed by cohort in outdoor settings as follows:

- \* Schools can make use of school facilities or local outdoor facilities (e.g. parks, ovals) but must minimise contact with those outside of the school cohort.

School sport activities may proceed in indoor settings as follows:

- \* Maximum capacity limit of no more than 1 person per 4 square metres when using indoor spaces for sport or exercise.
- \* Schools may use indoor facilities on school sites or make use of public indoor recreation facilities in line with community settings.

### **A REMINDER FOR ALL FAMILIES:**

Students are expected to attend school from their designation return to school date unless they are unwell or have even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. **Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:**

- \* they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available;
- \* **they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free.**

In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test. Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-isolate until a negative result is received.

### **Vaccinations for students aged 12 years and over**

NSW Health are urging all students 12 and over to get vaccinated with the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible before returning to school.

There is currently sufficient supply of the Moderna vaccine to community pharmacies and the Pfizer vaccine to General Practitioners. Bookings can be made via the [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) External link. Depending on location, bookings are available within the next few days.

COVID-19 vaccination is the best protection against severe illness and also reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19 to others. Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 now will help to protect both you, your family and our school community.

### **Learning from Home**

For families who are continuing to learn from home, [the learning from home page](#) has a wide range of curriculum-based activities to further support your child's learning, if needed.

Thank you again for your understanding and support.

Stay well | Stay Safe ... *With kind regards*

*Mrs Anne Ezzy* | Principal



# NORTHMEAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Cnr. Moxhams and Kleins Roads Northmead NSW 2152  
T: 02 9630 3133



25 October, 2021

Dear Northmead Public School families:

## **Intention to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2023**

Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2023, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

**The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 10 March 2023.**

Detailed instructions on how to apply and the link to the online form will be available in early-October 2021 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>.

**Applications open on 19 October 2021 and close on 17 November 2021. You must apply before the closing date.**

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

**The tear-off slip below is NOT an application and the school CANNOT apply on your behalf.**

### **THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL.**

This is a notice to your primary school only that you intend to apply.

TO APPLY FOR PLACEMENT YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER YOUR EMAIL AND THEN SUBMIT AN APPLICATION THROUGH THE ONLINE FORM ON THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS WEBSITE:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

With kind regards,

*Mrs Denise Whyte*

**Assistant Principal**

*Mr Daniel Gorrie*

**Deputy Principal**

*Mrs Anne Ezzy*

**Principal**

-----Cut here and return the note below to the school by Friday 5 November 2021 -----

## **Intention to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2023**

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I intend to apply for selective high school entry in Year 7 in 2023 for my child through the High Performing Students website between 19 October 2021 and 17 November 2021.

Signature of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_

### **THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL.**

This is a notice to your primary school only that you intend to apply.

TO APPLY FOR PLACEMENT YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER YOUR EMAIL AND THEN SUBMIT AN APPLICATION THROUGH THE ONLINE FORM ON THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS WEBSITE:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

**Return to School 2022**

PLEASE RETURN TO THE OFFICE

**K-5 STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO  
NORTHMEAD PUBLIC SCHOOL IN 2022**

To: The Principal, Northmead Public School

My child / children will not be attending Northmead Public School in 2022.

Please print student names below:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Last day of attendance: - \_\_\_\_\_

Name of new school: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Returning Late to School- 2022**

To: The Principal, Northmead Public School

My child / children will be **returning late** to Northmead Public School after the commencement of Term 1 (Tuesday 1 February 2022) because

\_\_\_\_\_

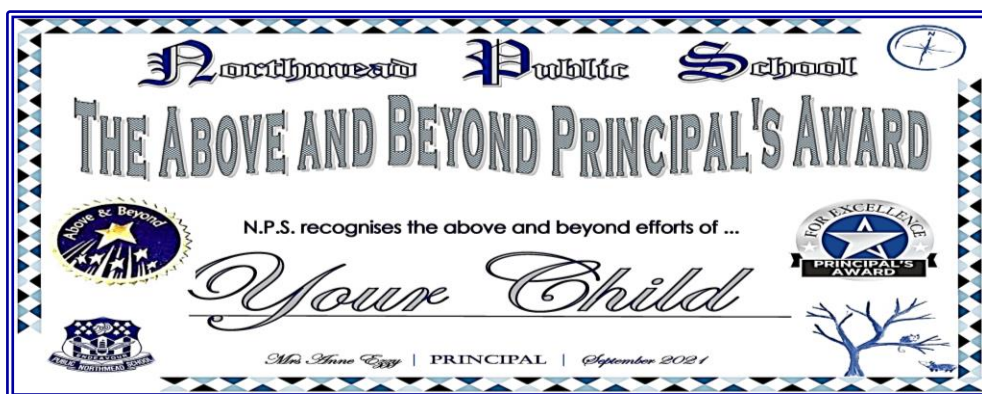
The anticipated date of return is: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

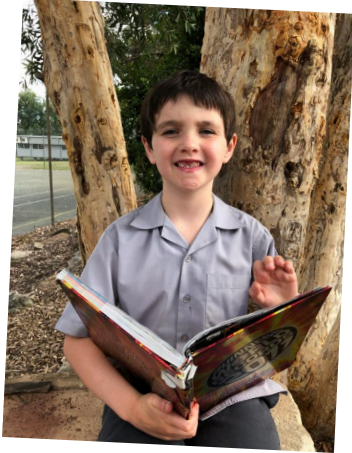
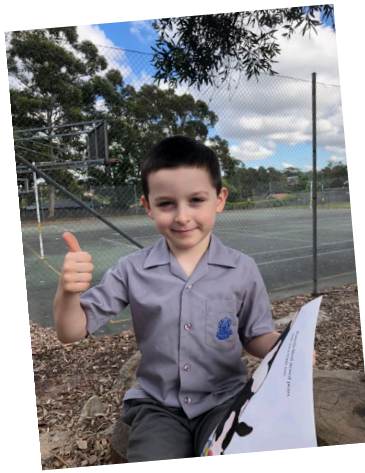


### KINDERGARTEN – STAGE 1 (YEARS 1 AND 2)

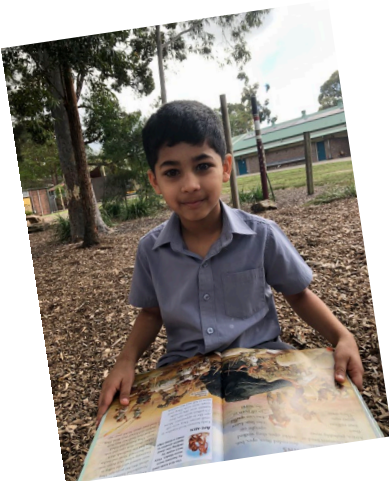
CLASS	WEEK 1	CLASS	WEEK 1	CLASS	WEEK 1
KC	Ruby R.	1C	Malia L.	1/2M	Waisake D.
KC	Aarav J.	1C	Joshua W.	1/2M	Emily S.
KL	Jack F.	1D	Jackson H.	2C	Fateh S.
KL	Sophie S.K.	1D	Monza Z.	2C	Sabine B.
KMB	Marlie B.	1F	Matthew A.	2H	Emma C.
KMB	Quinten Li.	1F	Karina W.	2H	Liam H.
KS	Syon H.	1G	Lucas S.	2K	Melika M.
KS	Lara E.	1G	Leo C.	2K	Max D.
KT	Syon R.	1/2JL	Emily M.	2P	Chloe H.
KT	Mrighula R.	1/2JL	Bradley N.	2P	Jude W.

### STAGE 2 – YEARS 3 AND 4 AND STAGE 3 – YEARS 5 AND 6

CLASS	WEEK 1	CLASS	WEEK 1
3/4A	Lillian G.	4/5F	Ahan K.
3/4A	Tomas W.	4/5F	Manal K.
3/4C	Subhan L.	5/6E	Amelia S.
3/4C	Reginald B.	5/6E	Ibrahim N.F.
3/4F	Quinn S.	5/6H	William B.
3/4F	Lewis W.	5/6H	Ophelia L.
3/4K	Daras S.B.	5/6M	Maia B.
3/4K	Gauransh S.	5/6M	Georgia G.
3/4L	Ella G.	5/6N	Finn M.
3/4L	Lee T.-F.	5/6N	Melinda M.
3/4M	Millie S.	5/6S	Ruby K.
3/4M	Jacob G.	5/6S	Olivia W.
3/4P	Natalie G.	5/6W	Luca B.-R.
3/4P	Donovan O'C.	5/6W	Eternity H.



# Enjoying the weather with 1F





# Learning Success Term 4



At a recent P & C meeting there were a number of questions about how we would be helping students to “catch up” after our recent lockdown. Other parents were concerned about how we were going to cater for students who display anxiety upon returning to school.

Teachers have been asked to identify students who have fallen behind their peers or are experiencing difficulties after returning to school. The Learning Success Team and EAL/D Team will be forming withdrawal groups to work with these students in reading, vocabulary development, speaking and listening and writing. Notes will be sent home once groups are formed. If you have any questions we are always happy to speak with you via phone or Zoom. Please ring the office to request a call from the appropriate team member.

Mrs Hollier-Smith (M-Fr) will be working with Kindergarten students and will also continue to work with some of her Term 3 students.

Mrs Bentley (M-Th) will work with Stage 1 students.

Miss McDonnell (M-Fr) will be working across the school with students in Kindergarten to Year 6 requiring assistance with social skills, anxiety and settling happily back into school. Her focus will be on our senior students.

Miss Fong (M-Fr) will be completing the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check with each Year 1 student and will then assist Kindergarten staff with the Phonological Awareness Assessment. She will also be taking a Year 4 group.

Mrs Wheatley (Tu-Fr) will be working with Stage 2 students.

With only a few weeks remaining in Term 4, we will be working hard to make a difference to the students in these withdrawal groups and will be supplementing the amazing work being done by classroom teachers.

Please continue to read daily with your child at home and praise their efforts as they begin to show improvement. Provide opportunities for them to write such as writing shopping lists, writing letters or even keeping a diary. Their diary entries could be a source of amusement to them later in life! Making reading and writing real will give them an authentic reason to use their new found skills. Try to find books on topics they enjoy or start reading the first book in a series to get them “hooked” on reading and keen to read further books in the series. Share some of your favourite childhood books with your children and make bedtime reading a special end to every day. The best way to improve is to READ, READ, READ!!!!



Gail Wheatley AP Learning Success



# Community Corner

Thank you to all the families who have donated shoes and sporting boots we were able to use them for PSSA. The school shoes have also come in very handy when children have outgrown their normal shoes or they have broken at school. With the children having been away from school for so long, some may have again outgrown their school shoes and I am still happy to accept good quality used shoes and any uniforms that are in good condition. It is great to be able to help other families and pay it forward.

Breakfast Club has been put on hold till further notice in line with current government regulations. We are hoping to run breakfast club in the future and thank all our sponsors who have made this possible.

Breakfast Club has been made possible by the support of the Northmead staff and some wonderful donations from the following organisations:

The Rotary Club of the Hills - Kellyville

Winston Hills Lions Club

Northmead Public School P & C

Woolworths Winston Hills

Grilled Gourmet Food Truck

Natalie Davis and family

Thank you kindly,

Mrs Anne Carmichael – NPS Community Engagement Officer



Hi Everyone,

I can't tell you how happy I am to be back in the Canteen with our wonderful school community.

The Canteen will be open for online orders only for recess and lunch from Monday 18th October. This can be done via the Qkr App.

Regulations from the Department of Education are that no parents are allowed on site, which means, at the moment, no volunteers. However, Mrs Ezzy is keeping a keen eye on any updates that come through.

So, the menu will be a bit restricted until we can welcome back our hardworking volunteers.

From the 11th October the Canteen will be deep cleaned, Covid regulations updated and put in place and organising deliveries of fresh food for our children.

Any questions or queries please email :

[ourschoolcanteen@gmail.com](mailto:ourschoolcanteen@gmail.com)

Kind regards Jo

# Schools Reconciliation Challenge

Our Stage 2 student Somer has been selected as a finalist in the 2021 Schools Reconciliation Challenge, *Under One Sky: Yesterday, Today and Forever* Exhibition and online gallery for her artwork 'I Felt Different'.

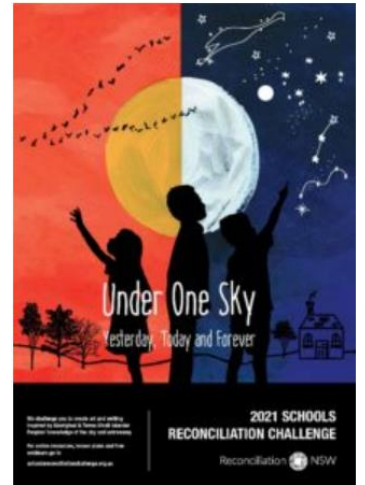
This year you can vote for your favourite artwork online. It would be wonderful if we could all show our support for Somer's fantastic achievement by going online to vote. Follow the following link to vote.

<https://www.judgify.me/public-voting/2021SchoolsReconciliationChallengePeoplesChoiceAward?lan=en>

The Exhibition and awards ceremony will be launched by The Hon. Ministers Don Harwin (Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts) and Sarah Mitchell (Education) online in November.

The Exhibition will also be displayed at Questacon on monitors in the foyer in the ACT, and in Sydney during National Reconciliation Week at Barangaroo's International Towers!

We are all so proud of you Somer!



# School Travel for 2022



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## 2022 school travel applications are now open

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

## School Student Transport Scheme site change

On 1 October 2021 the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) information and application portal was moved to **transportnsw.info**. This will assist families to find all their travel information in the one place.

### Travel from Term 1 2022

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) open at the start of Term 4 2021 for travel in 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a difficult period for local bus operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations increasingly difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel on a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Please also remember that students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).



Further information can be found at [transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel](https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel)

Enquiries can be submitted at [transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback](https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback)

# Northmead Public School Band News



We are back into routine with our online tutorials and rehearsals, and hope that everyone is enjoying playing their instruments. **Thank you** to all the wonderful students who have continued to 'play every day', and to the amazing parents who have encouraged their progress and enthusiasm.



## Will your child be joining band in 2022?

Any child in Year 3 or above in 2022 may apply to join next year's **Training Band**. No prior music experience is required. Notes will come home with Year 2 students with further details, so look out for them in school bags and via School bytes. Watch this space if your child is keen to learn an instrument in 2022.



**Congratulations to the Performing Band**, who participated in the Sydney Eisteddfod during Term 2, and came fourth place with a Highly Commended. This is a great achievement, as there were twenty entries in their section- Well done everyone and a big thank you to our conductor Mr Clark!

## Contacting band

The band committee can be contacted at [npsband@hotmail.com](mailto:npsband@hotmail.com)

## Northmead Public School Band News



Any child in Year 3 or above in 2022 may apply to join next year's **Training Band**. No prior music experience is required. Notes have been sent out with Year 2 students with further details. Our bands consist of the following instruments:



The **flute** is a quiet and sweet-sounding instrument. Students with smaller lips and competent fine motor skills suit the flute. Contrary to popular belief, the flute requires similar air capacity to that of the tuba.



**Clarinets** have a large range, their lowest notes being lower than the saxophone and their highest notes almost reaching the highest note of a flute. Clarinets require considerable fine motor skills but slightly smaller air capacity than the flute. Their sound, created by airflow and a vibrating reed, is rich and sonorous.



The **saxophone** was developed from the clarinet, and they share many similarities. The player blows into a reed fitted into the mouthpiece of the instrument. The saxophone can produce a mellow or strong sound. It is suitable for all students but is difficult to play if they are small.



The **trumpet** is the playground of the energetic and exuberant. It can be a sweet melodious or an edgy/punchy sounding instrument, making it one of the most versatile instruments in the band. Students must have the ability to produce a 'buzz' and good 'tummy power'.



The **euphonium** has a sound similar to that of the French horn. It has the versatility to play fast and furious melodic passages as well as a low enough range to form part of the bass line. Its mouthpiece is large, producing a large, rich and warm sound, and making it easy to play.



The **trombone** is the only instrument that uses a slide system to change its pitch. Students need to have good listening skills. Like the trumpet, the trombone is incredibly versatile, and is the only instrument that can produce a 'glissando' and a very cool car racing noise.



Percussionists are required to juggle up to 30 different instruments, each with their own unique technical requirements, including the **drum kit, timpani, glockenspiel**, cymbal, maraca, gong, bass drum, bongo, conga and wind chimes. Percussionists need to have excellent coordination and most importantly, a very steady sense of beat. Students need to be dedicated and organised, as percussion requires constant flexibility and multi-tasking.



A **bass guitar** is a string instrument which is related to the electric guitar. The bass guitar produces lower sounds, is usually larger in size and length, and also heavier than regular guitars. The size and weight of this instrument, as well as how your child's hands fit around the neck of the instrument is important to consider when choosing the bass guitar.

### Contacting band

For further information the band committee can be contacted at [npsband@hotmail.com](mailto:npsband@hotmail.com)





Diwali also known as Deepavali, which translates as 'a row of lights' is one of the most significant of all Hindu festivals and is celebrated over a period of 5 days. This year, Diwali runs *from the 2nd to the 6th of November*, with the main celebration day being on the *4th of November*.

For many people Diwali is an important festival and everyone in the early years should embrace this special occasion. Diwali is one of the largest festivals celebrated as part of the Hindu religion and celebrations span over five days, with one main festival night.

Teaching children and allowing them to experience other religions and cultures is important to creating a diverse and understanding community. With understanding comes acceptance and it is important to create this understanding as early as possible by allowing children from all cultures and religions to share their experiences and what is important to them and their families.

By celebrating Diwali and any other important festivals which arise throughout the year enables children to feel valued, supported, and respected, with this comes confident children and learners. It allows children to see that they all have differences and that this is okay because everyone has parts of them that make them special and unique.



**GIRRAWEEEN**  
HIGH SCHOOL

## **Year 7 2023 Information Link to Year 5 Students and their Parents**

Girraween High School is an academically selective coeducational high school with a focus on providing a balanced and positive education experience for our students who aspire to achieve exceptional HSC results. The school has experienced and dedicated staff, providing students with safe, engaging classes.

Entry is via the Selective High School Placement Test that is run by the Department of Education's High Performing Students Unit. The test will be conducted on Thursday 10 March 2022. Online applications open 19th October 2021 and close 17 November 2021. For more information please refer to our website.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we are unable to have an information evening at school. In early Term 4 2021, we will post on the below link <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnXxEpAPUWVOHRMg5PUp-c-DYAcZwF0F2> which will contain information about our school. In addition to our HSC results outlined below, GHS has an extensive range of cocurricular programs on offer. Examples of cocurricular programs can be found on our website at: [https://girraween-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/g/girraween-h/rules-and-policies/Girraween\\_High\\_CoCurriculur\\_Book.pdf](https://girraween-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/g/girraween-h/rules-and-policies/Girraween_High_CoCurriculur_Book.pdf)

### **2020 HSC Achievements**

Girraween ranked 27th in the state overall with 9 students achieving an ATAR of 99 and over.

15 students of the cohort achieved an ATAR score over 98. The highest ATAR was 99.95 (Maximum ATAR 99.95). There were 21 "all rounder" students who achieved 90% or better in 10 units of study. 100% students received university offers.

State rankings included:

2<sup>nd</sup> for Physics

3<sup>rd</sup> for Economics

7<sup>th</sup> for Chemistry

7<sup>th</sup> for Ancient History

313 distinguished achievers; students who achieved 90% or better in a subject  
100% of all students achieved in the top two bands for History Ext, English Ext 1 and 2, Science Ext and PDHPE. Almost 90% of students achieved in the top two bands for Legal Studies, Maths Extension 1 and 2, Business Studies, Ancient History, Society and Culture and Japanese Beginners and Continuers.

# Keeping families and children well

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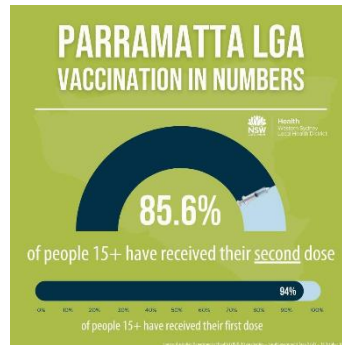
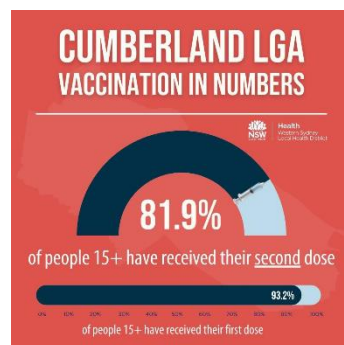
Welcome to the latest COVID-19 Bulletin, containing helpful information and resources on current COVID-19 topics, as well as practical ideas for childcare services, schools and families to keep everyone healthy and active during this time. **Become a COVID-19 Bulletin subscriber [here](#).**

### LATEST NEWS

#### COVID-19 vaccination updates

**More than 80% of people 16+ are fully vaccinated in NSW and in EVERY Local Government Area in western Sydney!**

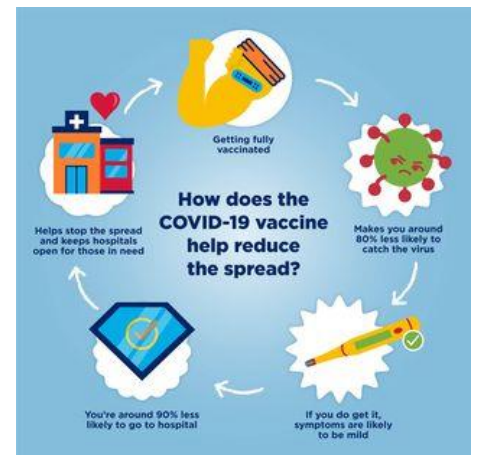
We thank everyone who has come forward to be vaccinated to protect themselves, their loved ones and the wider community from COVID-19. [Post for sharing.](#)



#### COVID-19 vaccination

Getting vaccinated is our best defence against COVID-19 and reduces your risk of getting seriously ill. A high proportion of people in intensive care are not vaccinated.

- Everyone 12+ years is eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Vaccinations are available** through GPs, pharmacies, NSW Health vaccination clinics, Aboriginal medical services, walk-in vaccination clinics and outreach vaccination clinics. Some clinic locations may change as venues reopen for their usual purpose. Find a clinic [here](#).



**Walk-in**

**COVID-19 vaccinations**

now available at

**Qudos Bank Arena**

Open to all people aged 12 and up  
First and second doses  
Both Pfizer and AstraZeneca available

**Walk-in first dose and second dose Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccinations are available every day at Qudos Bank Arena Vaccination Centre for all aged 12+ until Sunday 7 November.**

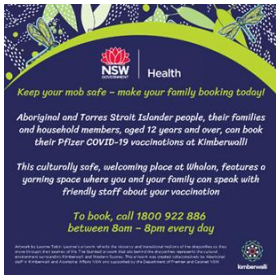


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**Walk-in Pfizer vaccinations available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from western Sydney**, their families and household members, aged 12+ at Kimberwalli, Whalan. Come and have a yarn to discuss your vaccination or make a booking [here](#).

Watch this [guided tour video](#).

## COVID-19 vaccines children and adolescents

Dr Matt O'Meara, NSW Chief Paediatrician, answers some [important vaccination questions](#).



COVID-19 vaccination services for **people with disability and their carers and for disability workers** [here](#).

**Know the facts about COVID-19 vaccination** [here](#) and [here](#). Answers to common questions in 63 languages [here](#).

More COVID-19 vaccination information [here](#).

## Proof of COVID-19 vaccination

### Your COVID-19 digital vaccination certificate:

- Is available through your [my gov](#) Medicare online account, Express Plus Medicare mobile app, My Health Record, the Individual Healthcare Identifiers Service and the Australian Immunisation Register. Read more [here](#). Factsheet [here](#) and in 17 languages [here](#).
- Can now be **integrated with your Service NSW app** so when you check-in, you can show your vaccination status at the same time.
- To do this:
  - Ensure your [MyGov account](#) is linked to Medicare.
  - If you already have the Express Plus Medicare app and Service NSW app, make sure you have the latest version on your device.
  - If you don't have the [Express Plus Medicare app](#), you will need to download it from your app store and sign in to the Express Plus Medicare app with your MyGov account details.
  - In the Express Plus Medicare app, select 'Proof of vaccinations' and then 'View history'
  - Select 'Share with check in app' and then 'Service NSW'. How to video [here](#). Read more [here](#).



### For information:

Western Sydney Local Health District – Centre for Population Health

E: WSLHD-LLWats@health.nsw.gov.au, WSLHD-munchandmove@health.nsw.gov.au

[www.healthykidswesternsydney.com.au](#)



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### COVID-19 vaccination certificate for international travel:

To get the your COVID-19 vaccination certificate for international travel, you'll need to have an Australian passport or foreign passport with an Australian visa, and your vaccination needs to be recorded in the Australian Immunisation Register.

- People eligible for Medicare are able to download a certificate from the MyGov website or the Medicare Express mobile app.
- Those not eligible for Medicare who've been vaccinated in Australia can request a certificate by calling the Australian Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809 or visiting a Services Australia shopfront. Read more [here](#).



### Restrictions update



**Easing of restrictions at 80% fully vaccinated from Monday 18 October.** For [fully vaccinated people](#):

- 20 people allowed to visit your home
- 50 people allowed to gather outdoors
- No caps on weddings and funerals
- Masks will also no longer be required in offices
- Drinking while standing and dancing permitted indoors and outdoors at hospitality venues
- Community sport resumes

Check the latest [rules](#) and how they apply to you: [NSW roadmap for easing COVID-19 restrictions](#).

Changes to the roadmap due 1 November:

- Travel between Greater Sydney and regional NSW
- No bookings limits in hospitality settings, density limits still apply.
- Fully vaccinated international or interstate arrivals not required to undertake home or hotel quarantine. Travellers must have a PCR test prior to departure and provide proof of vaccination status.

Please continue mask wearing and physical distancing to keep each other safe.

**More information:** [Common questions about the rules, legislation and penalties](#).



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### COVID-19 testing and case alerts in Western Sydney

Please continue to come forward for testing, because this allows us to find COVID-19 cases and stop them spreading in the community.

You can still get COVID-19 if you are vaccinated. Avoid passing it onto people you care about by getting tested if you any have [symptoms](#), even if they are mild. Isolate until you receive a negative result.

Find your nearest testing clinic [here](#). Some clinic locations may change as venues reopen for their usual purpose.

- Case locations assessed as a public health risk are listed [here](#).


Updated advice for [confirmed cases](#), [close contacts](#) and [casual contacts](#).



### Information for families – return to face-to-face learning


## HELPFUL TIPS FOR COMING BACK TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Your teacher is looking forward to seeing you and we know that you are looking forward to seeing your friends. Sometimes learning from home felt easy, sometimes it felt a bit hard. Everyone has a different learning from home story to tell. Here's some helpful tips for you as you get ready to return to school.




**GET READY**

Check your uniform and shoes still fit, and repack your school bag. Your school will have hand sanitiser and masks, but you can take your own too!




**BE SAFE**

Safety first – wear your mask. Sneeze or cough into your elbow, put used tissues in the bin, and wash your hands during the day and before you eat.




**BE KIND AND PATIENT**

Everyone will settle back to school in a different way. Showing kindness and being patient with the people around you will help everyone feel better.




**SCHOOL WORK**

Try your best. Let a teacher, parent or a carer know what you found easy or hard when working from home. They are there to help you.




**FEELINGS**

It can help to talk. It's ok to feel a little unsure, worried, nervous, happy, angry or any feeling in between. Talking to your parent or a carer, your teacher or other staff is important when you feel unsettled or are worried about a friend.




**HAVE SOME FUN**

Your teacher wants you to enjoy being back at school. Join in the classroom and break-time fun, and play outside with your friends and classmates.



**EAT**


Food is fuel for your body and brain. Don't forget to eat breakfast and grab a healthy lunch and keep your water bottle topped up!



**SLEEP**

Nothing beats a good sleep. Go to bed early and keep phones and other devices in another room, so you're not disturbed. It might take a little time to get back into your routine.

There are more ideas on looking after yourself on the Department of Education's [student mental health and wellbeing](#) pages.



NSW Department of Education

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### High school vaccination program

- As school-based learning returns vaccinations recommended for adolescents will be offered by NSW Health as part of its school-based vaccination program. Resources are available [for parents/guardians](#) and [for schools](#) to stay informed on the COVID-19 safety measures and eligibility of the school vaccination program.

### Back to school wellbeing information for families

- It's normal to be both excited to get back to normal and to feel stressed or anxious about it. If you need support, get in touch with the [Parent Line NSW](#) 1300 1300 52 (cost of a local call) 9am to 9pm Monday - Friday 4pm to 9pm Saturday and Sunday.
- Returning to normal after COVID-19: The [KidsHelpline guide](#).
- [Supporting children's face to face learning](#) available in 35 languages.
- [Getting ready to go back to school ten tips for parents](#).
- [Antibullying fact sheet](#), parent and carer tips, available in 36 languages.



### Getting a good night's sleep

- Sleep helps children concentrate at school. While getting back into the routine of attending school, children may be more tired. Here are some useful tips to [support a good night's sleep](#) and encourage [healthy sleep habits](#) (for 0-5 years).



### Events for Afghan young people (aged 12-25 years)



**Afghan youth poetry & music night:** Friday 22 October 5 – 7pm via Zoom.

**Afghan youth mental health discussion:** Friday 12 November 5 – 7pm via Zoom.

Register [here](#).

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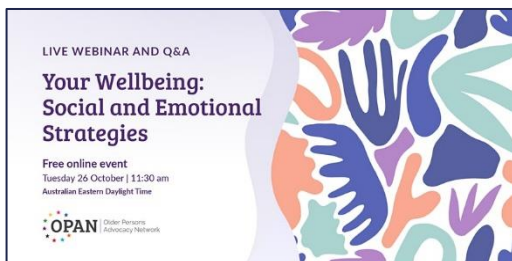
### Life after lockdown survey results

Over 500 people in Western Sydney shared their thoughts in the "Life after Lockdown" survey, which aimed to find out what concerns people have coming out of lockdown. We know the survey results don't speak for everyone in Western Sydney but here's a brief snapshot of what you told us:

- 
  - **Children's safety and wellbeing** is the top concern coming out of lockdown.
    - People are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 due to complacency and potentially infecting people they care about.
    - Mental health, transition to life after lockdown and fear of another lockdown were also concerns.
- 
  - **People have spent more time with their family**, making more home cooked meals and exercising more during the pandemic. They want these habits to continue and are also keen to spending less time on screens.
- 
  - **Being socially connected** after lockdown is really important to people's wellbeing.

Using these insights, we'll continue to work with our partners to help support the health and wellbeing of the community to live well after lockdown.

### Information for older people



LIVE WEBINAR AND Q&A  
**Your Wellbeing: Social and Emotional Strategies**  
Free online event  
Tuesday 26 October | 11:30 am  
Australian Eastern Daylight Time  
OPAN Older Persons Advisory Network

#### Your Wellbeing: Social and Emotional Strategies webinar

Hear tips to keep socially connected and emotionally well, ready to live life to the fullest as we reopen.

When: Tuesday 26 October 11:30am. Register [here](#).

#### The Older Persons COVID-19 Support Line

For older persons, their families, friends and carers for support or questions about COVID-19, call [1800 171 866](tel:1800171866) Monday-Friday 8.30am-6pm.

#### The Multilingual Older Persons COVID-19 Support Line

Available in Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Italian, Mandarin and Vietnamese, Monday to Friday 2-5pm. Read more [here](#)



**Multilingual Older Persons COVID-19 Support Line**

Italian 1800 549 844	Mandarin 1800 549 847
Greek 1800 549 845	Cantonese 1800 549 848
Vietnamese 1800 549 846	Arabic 1800 549 849

The Multilingual Older Persons COVID-19 Support Line provides information about COVID-19 and can support you to connect with aged care services, dementia care and other support services. It is available in Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Italian, Mandarin and Vietnamese. All calls are free.

Visit [www.picac.alliance.org](http://www.picac.alliance.org) for more information about the support line and to download brochures in the six languages.

**Support Line hours:** FREE CALL 2pm - 5pm (AEST) Monday - Friday Excluding public holidays



#### For information:

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### Resources

In language COVID-19 print and web resources available [here](#). You can search resources by language [here](#).

#### Updated and new resources:

- **Top 3 COVID-19 vaccine questions video series** – topics include vaccination while pregnant, vaccine dosage for children, needle phobias and more.
- **Pacific community leaders' vaccination videos** in English, Fijian, Fijian-Hindi, Niuean, Samoan and Tongan.
- **Correct mask wearing** video.
- Beyond Blue tips for easing out of lockdown social media tiles [here](#).



### COVID-19: Need more information or help?

#### Websites:

- Check [latest announcements](#) and [NSW Health COVID-19 information](#)
- Check Australian Government [COVID-19 information](#)
- Follow NSW Health on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- Visit [www.healthdirect.gov.au](http://www.healthdirect.gov.au) to check symptoms
- Visit <http://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19> for all other COVID-19 related information
- Visit [COVID-19 Community Resources website](#). Subscribe [here](#).

#### Who to call:

- Call National Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 020 080 (24/7) for health questions or to check symptoms
- Call Service NSW on 13 77 88 (24/7) for non-health related questions
- Call Beyond Blue on 1800 512 348 (24/7) for mental wellbeing support
- Call Translating & Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 for FREE help in your language
- Call COVID-19 Let's Talk on 8890 5236 to talk about stress and lifestyle changes during COVID-19

#### Resources:

[Coronavirus Australia app](#)

### Feedback – we would love to hear from you

We appreciate any feedback or suggestions you have on our 'Keeping families and children safe – COVID-19 bulletin.

Please click [here](#) to complete our short bulletin survey. Thank you.

*Information is current at date of issue – 21 October 2021*

***We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians of the land/s on which we work, and pay respect to elders past, present and emerging.***

#### For information:

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