



UPDATE FOR FAMILIES | TERM 4 ROADMAP FROM 8 NOVEMBER

Dear Northmead Public School families:

As announced by the Minister for Education, from 8 November all NSW schools will move to updated Level 3 settings that bring school operations more in line with what is allowed in the community. I would like to update you on the key changes that will be in place at our school from Monday 8 November and for the rest of Term 4.

Keeping us all safe on school grounds

A combination of layered COVID-safe plans and measures will allow us to prioritise student and staff safety and keep our school open. To do this, the following guidelines will be in place:

- **Students, staff and visitors must not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms.**
- All staff on school sites must be fully vaccinated.
- All parents, carers and volunteers and providers who are permitted to come onto school sites must be fully vaccinated **and provide proof of vaccination**.
- Adult visitors on the school site must be fully vaccinated **and provide proof of vaccination**.
- Masks are required indoors for all staff, adult visitors and strongly recommended indoors for primary students. Masks can be removed when eating or exercising.
- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.
- Schools must maintain attendance records of all gatherings.
- Adults should maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.
- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practical.
- Indoor spaces will be well ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees - following square metre guidelines.
- Students should avoid mingling with other class and year groups when moving around the school.
- Students and staff will maintain good hand hygiene and schools will continue with enhanced cleaning, including high touch points.
- Students from the age of 12 and above are eligible to receive either the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and are strongly recommended to do so where possible.

Drop-offs and pick-ups – to remain outside the school gates:

It is not possible with the large number of parents/carers involved, to check everyone's vaccination status prior to entry. **Drop-offs and pick-ups will continue to occur outside of the school gates** with no parent/carer entry to the school grounds.



Student drop-off, pick-ups **will continue to be at the same entry/exit gates as has been in place since 25 October** including being staggered by year groups as follows:

- **Kindergarten:** pick-up at **2:45pm** at Kleins Road;
- **Year 1:** **3pm** at Kleins Road;
- **Year 2:** **3pm** at the Bus Gate in Kleins Road;

- **Years 3 & 4:** 3pm Moxhams Road Pedestrian gate;
- **Years 5 & 6:** 3pm at the Bus Gate in Kleins Road;
- **Older brothers/sisters collecting Kindergarten/Year 1 students:**
 - **2:50pm** released from class to collect younger siblings from Kindergarten/Year 1 COLA. **Wait for the 3pm bell before leaving the school.** *(continued next page)*;
 - **Wait for the 3pm bell** on the silver seats in Area A, then exit via NOOSH or Moss Street Gates. **You may not leave the school until the bell has rung.**

We will continue to use all possible entrances and exits to support the beginning and end of school days and communicated to families including the NPS Gate Map. **Please see information in the Newsletter of October 14 as well as the school map and gate information sent home to families via SchoolBytes, Skoolbag and published on the website October 14.**

From 8 November

All NSW Public schools will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4 2021, with the following activities allowed in a COVID-safe manner:

- Assemblies and presentations are allowed outdoors, with cohorts separated and physical distancing in place. **Fully vaccinated visitors** *(including parents and carers)* **are only allowed to attend if completing a specific role** *(such as presenting)* **and at the invitation of the school.**
- Dancing, bands, ensembles and music classes will be allowed within cohorts. **However, everyone must wear masks while playing instruments indoors. Other instruments that rely on breath or require a mask to be removed to be played, as well as singing and chanting, are not permitted in Term 4.**
- Excursions are allowed outdoors (and indoors where sole use of the premises is available).
- Incursions are allowed indoors and outdoors where cohorts are kept separate.
- Year 6 graduations and formals are allowed within cohorts, either on school sites or at external venues – with COVID-safe plans in place and physical distancing adhered to.
- School sports are allowed, including inter-school sports (after school hours) and access to indoor and outdoor pools (from 1 November).
- Transitions and orientations are allowed in a COVID-safe way that minimises mingling between students.

School photos – Wednesday 24 November

School photos are allowed outdoors on school sites. Providers supporting school photos must be fully vaccinated and sign in using the school check-in app. Only individual photos and sibling photos are permitted (no class or team photos due to physical distancing requirements).

Student attendance at school

- All students are expected to be at school unless they are unwell. Do not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms. Get tested for COVID-19 and follow NSW Health directions. Find your local [testing clinics](#)*External link*.
- If you have any COVID-19 symptoms you will be sent home and must not return to school unless you have either:
 - isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available

- a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free.
- In circumstances where a student has other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from your GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.
- Self-isolation periods and testing requirements differ for close contacts based on their exposure and vaccination status. If you are identified as a close contact, an authorised contact tracer from NSW Health or from the department's Health and Safety Directorate will contact you and let you what you need to do. For more information, refer to the [NSW Health fact sheet on close contacts](#)[External link](#).

Parents and carers on site to support school operations

- Fully vaccinated parents and carers will be allowed on-site to support curriculum delivery, student wellbeing activities and school operations (for example, canteens and uniform shops – with adherence to COVID square metre requirements for the space being used).
- **Parents and carers must check in using the school check-in, show proof of vaccination on entry to the school site and follow mask-wearing requirements.**
- As it is late in Term 4, activities such as reading groups with parent helpers, **will not resume until 2022.**

Thank you again for your continued support during this school term.

On behalf of the N.P.S. staff, please continue to stay safe and well

With kind regards ... Mrs Anne Ezzy | Principal
5 November 2021.

Term 4 roadmap

From 8 November

All schools will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4.

- School sports allowed
- Inter-school sports allowed outside of school hours
- Assemblies and presentations allowed outdoors on-site
- Excursions allowed outdoors
- Dancing and some music classes allowed
- Fully vaccinated visitors allowed on site to support curriculum delivery, wellbeing programs and school operations
- Community use allowed (including P&C meetings)

From Term 1 2022

We can look forward to more freedoms as schools return in 2022.

Keeping us all safe

A **combination of layered safety measures** allow us to prioritise student and staff wellness while we keep schools open.

Stay home if unwell

- Do not attend or participate if unwell, even with mild symptoms.



Vaccinations required

- All adults must be fully vaccinated.



Always check in

- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.



Wear masks indoors

- Masks are required indoors for all staff, visitors and students in Year 7 or above, and strongly recommended indoors for primary students.
- You can take your mask off when eating or exercising.



Physically distance

- Maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.



Maximise ventilation

- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practicable.
- Indoor spaces will be well ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees.



Stick to your cohorts

- Avoid mingling with other groups when moving around the school.

