

NORTHMEAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

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STUDENTS TO CONTINUE LEARN FROM HOME FROM 5 OCTOBER

Dear Northmead Public School families:

I hope you had a change of pace over the holiday break and enjoyed some time together without having to balance learning from home with other demands.

We have all welcomed the news of eased restrictions in LGAs of concern which will see some positive changes in Term 4.

As our school is in an LGA that is still under stay-at-home rules we will continue to learn from home for the start of Term 4. It is important that you continue to keep your children home if you are able to work from home.

While we are planning for our return to face-to-face learning and our teachers are completing their COVID-19 vaccinations **there will only be minimal supervision for students of essential workers on site.** All students will be provided with the same work as they would be completing at home.

We are all excited about the coming freedoms available to those who are fully vaccinated in NSW but all families are asked to hold on just a few weeks more to give us the time we need to complete our planning for your child's return.

Return to school roadmap for Term 4

In Term 4, where stay-at-home rules are still in place but high community vaccination and low transmission conditions are met, students will return to school in a staged approach for prioritised cohorts, with no mingling of student cohorts or on-site activities and **no parents permitted on site**.

The majority of schools students will return to face-to-face learning with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe Level 3 plus settings on school sites in the following order as announced by the Premier on Thursday 30 September:

- 18 October: Kindergarten and Year 1
- 25 October: Years 2 and 6
- 1 November: Years 3, 4 and 5

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order and additional advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent advice on the Department's <u>Advice for families page</u>.

For those families who have siblings across year groups I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back on site. But to re-iterate the message above – we need this time to prepare our school and operations for having all our students back so it's essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

Learning from home

For families who are continuing to learn from home, <u>the learning from home page</u> 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 during what is going to be both an exciting, but also an anxious time over the coming Term.

Please take some time to check out the Department's <u>wellbeing resources for students and</u> <u>families</u>. You'll find useful tools for mental health and Term 4 preparation.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for the return to face-to-face learning or if you have any concerns about the return to school.

We are spending the first weeks back at school finalising our COVID-safe plans for a return to faceto-face learning for the staggered return of different student year cohorts, as well as morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up gate locations for student year groups and playground rosters to reduce mixing of student cohorts. I hope to share these plans with you in the coming weeks.

> On behalf of the N.P.S. staff, please continue to stay safe and well With kind regards ... Mrs Anne Ezzy | Principal 5 October 2021.