



TERM 3 SCHOOL OPERATIONS | COVID-SAFE ADVICE
EDUCATION WEEK OPEN DAY – RESCHEDULED TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER
PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES – VIA ZOOM

Dear Parents / Carers

As mentioned in my update to you sent on Monday 18 July, the NSW Department of Education (DoE) has revised its COVID-safe measures for schools this week due to the increased cases of COVID-19 in communities as well as it being a higher risk time for respiratory illness including influenza and RSV, both of which can be serious in young people. The DoE prioritises student and staff wellbeing while keeping schools operational. The DoE is once again strongly advising mask-wearing when indoors for staff and students, particularly for the first 4 weeks of Term 3.

Should there be significantly increased cases of COVID-19 across the school, I will work with the Director, Girraween Network and the department's Health, Safety and Wellbeing case management team in case there is any need to look at changes to school operations.

Term 3 COVID-smart measures | Guidance for specific activities – Term 3

Schools have been asked to apply COVID-smart measures when planning activities to reduce risk, particularly in the first 4 weeks of Term 3. These include:

- Using well-ventilated and outdoor venues
- Limiting the number of visitors, including spectators and audiences
- Staggering start and finish times to reduce mingling
- Reducing activities to less than 30 minutes to minimise transmission risk
- Consider broadcasting events to remote audiences (e.g. using websites so events can be viewed from home)
- Postponing or limiting non-essential activities like excursions, indoor assemblies and visitors to the school
- Use virtual communication (e.g. ZOOM, Microsoft Teams, phone and email) in place of face-to-face meetings wherever possible

These revised measures have impacted our planned activities for Education Week, to comply with the Term 3 COVID-smart measures. We had intended to invite our families to performance assemblies, open classrooms and lunch with students. Rather than seriously reducing our families' access to the school which would not be the celebration we had planned, we have postponed our planned "N.P.S. Open Day" to **Tuesday of Week 10**, which is: **20 September**. So please **SAVE THE NEW DATE!**

In addition, **Parent/Teacher Conferences will now be conducted via ZOOM**. There will be no face-to-face parent/teacher meetings in classrooms or in the library, to reduce the spread of infection.

Because of this change to ZOOM, some teachers have needed to change or add to their availability times. Also, we understand that some parents may also not be able to make their current conference time via ZOOM.

If your current booking is affected by your teacher's availability being changed, you will be emailed and asked to rebook your time.

If **you** wish to change to a different time within your teacher's available bookings, the school will reopen the schoolinterviews.com.au site on **Friday 22 July** from **3:30pm** so you can make a new conference time from the times available.

A ZOOM link will be provided by next week from your child's classroom teacher/s. Anyone with a ZOOM account will be able to open this link. You will enter a waiting room until your conference time commences. Teachers will let you know when you need to finish up your conference as the next parent is waiting to enter the ZOOM meeting.

You will also get information around Student learning goals as your child and you will be completing an evaluation of their learning progress so far this year. A copy will be sent home with your child with their evaluation completed prior to your parent/teacher conference. You will then be asked to complete the parent/carer part of this evaluation either during or after the conference, which will then be returned to your child's teacher.

We thank you for your understanding of these changes to our planned Education Day events and the format for parent/teacher conferences due to the Department's revised COVID-smart measures, particularly for the start of Term 3.

If you have any particular queries, please email or phone the school.

With kind regards,

Mrs Anne Ezzy | Principal

21 July 2022