



NORTHMEAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Cnr. Moxhams and Kleins Roads Northmead NSW 2152
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COVID-SAFE UPDATE FOR FAMILIES | EFFECTIVE 14 OCTOBER

Dear Northmead Public School families:

I hope you and your child/children have settled into our final term of 2022. I want to provide you with an update on schools' COVID-smart settings as communicated by the NSW Department of Education, particularly with the latest change to isolation requirements and what this will mean for our school. Please review the following information and contact the school if you have further questions.

More specific information regarding COVID-safe advice around particular school operations, including events, large gatherings or performances planned for Term 4 will be communicated by the school to our community, P&C Executive and committees as well as relevant Year cohorts, including planned end-of-year and Year 6 activities.

You can find more detailed information here: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

On 30 September, National Cabinet announced that from Friday 14 October 2022, people who test positive to COVID-19 do not need to isolate. In line with this announcement, the NSW Department of Education have worked with NSW Health to support all schools to adapt to this change while continuing to prioritise student and staff wellbeing by minimising the risk of COVID-19 transmissions.

Students and staff should continue to stay home when sick

Students, staff and visitors should only attend school when they are symptom free. We strongly encourage all students, staff and visitors to follow the [guidance issued by NSW Health External link](#). We will continue to send home students or staff displaying symptoms.

Anyone who believes they have been exposed to COVID-19 is strongly recommended to monitor for symptoms and test if they have any concerns, as well as wear a mask. We will continue to support our families to use rapid antigen tests (RATs) if symptomatic or if you believe you have been exposed to COVID-19. RAT testing may help identify infection early and is important if you are in contact with people at greater risk of serious illness if exposed to COVID-19.

All schools are continuing COVID-smart measures

Our school will continue to operate with our baseline COVID-smart measures in place throughout Term 4 to minimise transmission and keep our school open. This includes a combination of layered safety measures such as maintaining hygiene and cleaning practices, using rapid antigen testing (RAT) when experiencing symptoms, maximising natural ventilation, strongly encouraged vaccinations and strongly encouraging mask-wearing particularly when indoors and/or physical distancing is not possible.

In certain circumstances, NSW Health and the Department of Education may advise that additional COVID-smart measures be temporarily reintroduced at our school. We will provide further details of any changes to COVID-smart measures at our school, if/when required.

Reporting requirements from 14 October

Please continue to notify your school if your child tests positive to COVID-19 as we will continue to notify the school community of any known positive cases to prioritise student and staff safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support of safe school operations during our final term of 2022.

With kind regards... *Mrs Anne Ezzy* | Principal...17 October 2022