

Lethbridge Park Public School
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Welcome back to 5 day per week school.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very pleased to welcome our students back to school for 5 day attendance and whilst we recognise that there are a number of restrictions upon school operations, our priority is making sure that the model of education we provide for our students is of the highest quality.

I am particularly grateful for the quality of the support we have received from our community and from a school perspective we have endeavored to support our community throughout the remote learning phase to keep connected with each other. I understand that for many parents remote learning created a considerable number of challenges at home, just as it did for us at school, however we plan to use the additional knowledge we have gained as a school to enhance teaching and learning now we have returned to a face to face model.

The video updates I have provided remain on our school website and can be accessed via <https://lethbridpk-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>. It is my intention to keep use the video format to replace our traditional school newsletter, with SMS notification providing a link to the files.

All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

School attendance

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- They are currently unwell.
- Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.
- Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

- If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.
- If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.
- If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact your school.

Reporting and assessment

- Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school.
- You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (week 6, Term 3).
- This may be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Schools are encouraged to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.

School activities

- Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

What children can do:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead

School cleaning and hygiene supplies

- Your school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap.

- Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.

School grounds

- There should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Your school can provide guidance as to who is considered essential.
- Your school will provide advice on drop off and pick up procedures.
- Wherever possible, parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.
- Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal.
- Community use of school facilities will recommence only for uses that are necessary for continuation of education and with principal's approval.

Responding to COVID-19 cases

- There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise

Morning Arrangements

In the morning the gates on Copeland Road, Bougainville Rd and Mariana Crescent will be open. Students may enter from any of these gates between 8.25am and 8.55am. **Please note that there is no supervision for students school prior to 8.25am.**

Preschool students may be escorted by parents to the preschool courtyard where staff will assist with sign in procedures.

Students will be moving directly to class as per wet weather arrangements.

The gates on Bougainville Road and Mariana Crescent will be locked at 8.55am, with any late students required to enter the grounds via Copeland Road. The logistics of managing late arrivals will be difficult, so all students arriving on time is important.

Canteen

Our canteen is open for both pre orders and for over the counter sales by students, however as parents are required to drop students at the gate there are no over the counter sales for parents. The canteen app will allow for preordering of lunch and recess.

Afternoon Arrangements

Preschool students

- Preschool students can be collected by parents from the preschool courtyard from 2.45pm. Siblings in years K-6 will meet parents in the courtyard.

K-2 students without older siblings.

- K-2 students without siblings in years 3-6 will be escorted to the Mariana Street pedestrian gate to meet parents.

K-2 students with older siblings AND all 3-6 students.

- K-2 students with older siblings AND all 3-6 students will exit the school grounds in family groups (where appropriate) based upon their sports house designations:
 - Warrigal students will exit via Copeland Road.
 - Buru students will exit via Bougainville Road.
 - Djubi students will exit via the Mariana Street carpark gate.
 - Kula students will exit via the Mariana Street Carpark gate

Whilst I appreciate that there is a lot of planning and changes to our routines, we are keen to ensure that quality education is a priority for Lethbridge Park Public School. I acknowledge that some of these routines and changes will create a level of inconvenience, however in order to make the school day run as smoothly as possible within the NSW government's guidelines we have had to make decisions that suit the best running of the school, and not always individual circumstances.

My thanks to everyone for outstanding support throughout the last 2 months.

Regards,

Luke Hubbert
Principal
25/5/2020