



Kentlyn Public School

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Thursday 24 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Updated Covid Guidelines

A big thank you for your continuing efforts in supporting our school and students during the pandemic – especially prioritising safety and learning.

The Premier and Minister for Education have announced changes to school settings for the remainder of Term 1. These updated settings were developed in close consultation with NSW Health and key stakeholders to ensure we continue to keep our schools open for learning, while keeping up with changing community settings.

The updated settings include:

- We will continue the use of rapid antigen tests (RATs) for twice-weekly testing of students and staff until Friday 25 February.
- From Monday 28 February, we will move to symptomatic testing. **Tests are to be used at your discretion such as if your child is symptomatic or there are cases in their class.** Our school will provide each student and staff member with 8 tests.

Beyond that, students and staff can access PCR tests or buy their own rapid antigen tests as these are now widely available and accessible in the community.

In all primary schools, masks will continue to be required indoors for all school staff, volunteers and visitors including parents and carers in primary schools until Friday 4 March.

This means that from Monday 7 March, masks will no longer be mandatory for all staff. However, those who wish to continue to use them will be supported to do so.

FOR WORKERS SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY – In line with community settings, workers who support our students with disability in SSPs, support units and some mainstream classrooms will be required to wear masks while working with students.

From Monday 28 February, visitors can be allowed back on school sites regardless of their vaccination status.

Our school will review activities such as assemblies, parent-teacher meetings and other gatherings in the coming days. We will let you know if these can proceed with our school in a COVID-smart way. **All visitors are asked to come to the office and follow our usual sign-in and sign-out process.**

Our school will continue to ensure our layered COVID-smart measures are in place, including vaccinations, maximising natural ventilation in learning spaces, continued good hand hygiene practices and enhanced cleaning.

Cohorting no longer required

As of Monday 28 February, students will no longer be required to be kept in year groups or other cohorts and we will no longer be required to use staggered start or finish times.

All our students, including kindergarten, will be finishing at the scheduled time of 3:00pm. Please note that all teachers will continue to walk our students at 3:00pm to the Old Kent Road gate and dismiss them once the parents are sighted.

We will continue to use the core layered COVID-smart measures for minimising risk when planning activities and events.

We strongly encourage our students and their families to consider vaccination including boosters when eligible. Find a vaccination clinic to book an appointment near you.

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

Regards

Androula Kavallaris

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Principal