

27 January 2022

Dear families,

I am writing with additional information about the return of students to our school campus. First, a reminder about the return dates for students.

Commencing 31 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool • New students tour from 9am-10am
Commencing 1 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 1 - 6

Drawing on national and local health advice, we have developed a return to school plan which has three key priorities:

- the health and safety of staff and young people
- the mental and emotional well-being of students and staff, and
- ensuring continuity of learning.




















Below is an outline of [ACT Health Guidelines](#) that schools are required to implement to ensure effective COVID-19 measures are in place.

Student illness	Anyone who is unwell, symptomatic or who are household close contacts must not be at school or preschool. This applies to staff and students. If they attend when unwell, they will be sent home.
Masks	Staff, visitors and students* in years 7-12 must wear a face mask on campus. Students in years 3-6 are encouraged to wear a mask if they are comfortable doing so. Students in Preschool to year 2 are not required to wear a mask. Masks may not be suitable for students with a disability or medical condition and schools will make allowances for those students not to wear masks. <i>* Masks will be available at school for those who require them. Disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i>
Physical Distancing and cohorting of staff and students	Physical distancing between children and young people is not always possible, particularly in single classrooms and school environments. It is however important for limiting the transmission of COVID-19. To support cohorting of staff and students, we have staggered breacktimes and timetables as well as pick up and drop off arrangements. More specific information about what this means for your child is included below.
Hand hygiene and COVID smart behaviours	Schools will maintain and promote hand and respiratory hygiene practices. Students will need to wash hands and use hand sanitisers throughout the day. Students will not be allowed to share food or drink.

Environmental cleaning	Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch point services, frequently used objects, common areas, toilets and play equipment.
Ventilation	All schools are following an Indoor Air Quality Plan. Improved ventilation and increased outdoor learning will be implemented where appropriate. Ventilation systems have been adjusted to increase fresh air circulation and plans will be updated to reflect improvements made since 2021, The Indoor Air Quality Plan can be found on our school website: https://www.franklinschool.act.edu.au/
Vaccination	The ACT has one of the highest vaccination rates of any city in the world and this is reflected in our teaching workforce. COVID-19 vaccinations are also mandated for staff working across early childhood education and care services, preschools, primary schools, Out of School Hours Care, specialist school settings and P-10 schools, or schools that share campus space with students in year 6 or below. These requirements are in place until the conclusion of the public health emergency.
Visitors and use of Check in CBR app	All students aged 16 and above, staff and visitors must check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. Parents and carers are allowed on school grounds for scheduled appointments only. Special arrangements will be made for children starting at a new school or early childhood service in 2022, or children with special needs who require transition visits prior to the commencement of the new school year.
Wellbeing supports	Wellbeing and learning supports, such as face to face appointments with the school psychologist or access to a Learning Support Assistant, will recommence with the return to school. They can be accessed through the schools established referral process. If the school psychology position is temporarily vacant, you can book an appointment for your child with our Central Telehealth team by filling a booking request form or emailing Telehealth@ed.act.edu.au . Central Telehealth Service is available between 9:30 – 4:30 pm during weekdays. For parents and carers of students with a medical vulnerability: If you wish the school to make reasonable adjustments for the safe return of your child, you must consult a GP and provide medical advice to that effect. Where adjustments can't be made, the school will support your child to learn from home.
Managing COVID-19 in schools	We are prepared to respond to a positive COVID-19 case on campus. A student who presents with symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated with suitable supervision, and parents will be required to collect their child. Symptomatic students will be required to wear a mask. Symptomatic staff and visitors will be advised to travel directly home. If a staff member, child, young person or visitor is diagnosed with COVID-19 and has attended a school site during their infectious period, they are required to advise their school. Where a COVID-19 case in a school leads to students and staff being assessed as at risk of exposure, those impacted will be informed by the school about what they are required to

	do in line with ACT Health requirements. If the exposure is considered low risk, students and staff will continue to be able to attend school while closely monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms.
	Risk assessments are based off the ACT Health Guidelines for Schools.
COVID-19 screening	<p>Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should get a PCR or Rapid Antigen Test immediately. Free Rapid Antigen Tests will be provided to all staff and students in ACT schools for the first four weeks of term 1. Rapid Antigen Testing will be voluntary for staff and students. Students and staff will do the tests at home and are required to report any positive test results to their school and to ACT Health.</p> <p>Rapid Antigen Testing kits will be available to collect from school during the first week of term. More information on the collection arrangements for our school will be provided in the coming days.</p>

To further support the ACT Health Guidelines our school is making the following adjustments.

<p>Student Drop off and pick up</p>	<p>If your child is in the beginning of the week preschool group (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays on an odd week) the school year commences on Monday 1 February at 9:00am. Upon arriving at school please make your way via the back of the school to the playground space called Great Outdoors 1 where your child will be able to meet their teacher and educator. The location of this spot is indicated by a yellow star  on the map below. In line with Directorate guidelines, we are requesting that no more than 2 family members escort our pre-schoolers onsite.</p> <p>All students new to Franklin in 2022 (Kinder- year 6) are welcome to come to school on Monday 31 January from 9:00-10:00 am for a tour of the school. If new students have already had a tour, there's no need to come on Monday, we will see you on Tuesday when the rest of the school commences.</p> <p>For existing students, the school year begins on Tuesday 1 February at 9:00am. Please follow the directions below to assist with drop off/pick up. In line with Directorate guidelines, we are requesting that families remain outside of the school premises for the start of 2022. If your child is in kindergarten and if required, 1-2 family members may escort their child/ren to the outside of their classroom.</p>																												
<p>SEE LOCATION DETAILS HERE:</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Say goodbye to families at:</th> <th>Will be escorted to:</th> <th>Code on map below</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Kindergarten</td> <td>The service entrance (near stop drop and go)</td> <td>The orange block</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 1</td> <td>The front of the school (front office area)</td> <td>New building</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 2</td> <td>The side gate (next to the portable)</td> <td>The portable</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 3/4</td> <td>The side gate (next to the portable)</td> <td>The blue block</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 5/6</td> <td>The back gate (near the preschool mud kitchen)</td> <td>New building</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small Group Program</td> <td>The front of the school (front office area)</td> <td>New building</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Say goodbye to families at:	Will be escorted to:	Code on map below	Kindergarten	The service entrance (near stop drop and go)	The orange block		Year 1	The front of the school (front office area)	New building		Year 2	The side gate (next to the portable)	The portable		Year 3/4	The side gate (next to the portable)	The blue block		Year 5/6	The back gate (near the preschool mud kitchen)	New building		Small Group Program	The front of the school (front office area)	New building	
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	 <p>- preschool entry</p>
<p>Hygiene routines</p>	<p>Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand sanitiser will be every classroom, offices and front office. • Cough into elbows or a tissue, place tissue in the bin and do hand hygiene after. • Avoid touching eyes, noses and mouth • Do not share food and drink <p>Hand washing procedures are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash hands at the start of day, after each play time and before eating. Everyone will wash their hands as procedure as per Directorate Hand washing sheet: 
<p>Teaching and learning</p>	<p>Term overviews outlining what teaching and learning will look like will be sent to all families at the end of week 2.</p> <p>To ensure that adults are not mixing with a wide array of students, each staff member has been allocated a year level grade. Until we receive further advice from the Directorate, staff will work in the following areas:</p>

Year level	Classroom teachers	Release teacher/s	Year level support
Preschool	Sarah King Alex Wood	Dylan Elks Joy Urquhart	Erin Rhodes Surbhi Gupta Sehar Aslam
Kindergarten	Lisa Slattery Melanie Pollack/Brigette King Jess Wilson Louise Johnson	Catherine Griffin Rebecca Tobler	Shelley Rath
Year 1	Krystal Bullock Renee Willey Tara Hall Rosanna De Marco	Katie Young Hannah Eversham	Jackson Smith Ben Van De Rhee Di Keir
Year 2	Christine Durward/Emma Skeen Gabby Jackson Karen Cossins Helen Duncan	Emma S (release) Joy Urquhart	Sehar Aslam
Year 3/4	Alice Pommer Natasha Taylor Phoebe Gordon Tanielle Peate Adele Janse Van Rensburg	Dylan Elks Julian Fior	Charu Passi
Year 5/6	Sam Beattie/Sam Higginson-Collits Madi Smith Noni See	Julian Fior Sam Higginson- Collits (release)	Michelle Eggleton
Small Group Program	Jessica Smith Keryn Bird	Ann Harrison	Rebecca Atkins Di Keir Robina Jeffs

Admin staff: Peter Thompson (Business manager), MayLin Singer, Emma Hopkins, Gloria Ross, Noreen Pigeon (library) and Zoran Veskovic (Building Services Officer).

**Break
times**

Break times will be as follows:



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	Recess Time	Group	Location
	10:30-11:00am	Kindy, year 1, year 2 and Small Group Program	K- GO1 SGP- SGP courtyard/year 1 location Year 1: Monday- GO2 Tuesday- Basketball court and new playground Wednesday- GO2 Thursday- GO2 Friday- new playground and Basketball court Year 2: Monday- Basketball court and new playground Tuesday- GO2 Wednesday- Basketball court and new playground Thursday- Basketball court and new playground Friday- GO2
	11:00-11:30	Years 3-6	Year 3/4: Monday- GO2 Tuesday- Basketball court and new playground Wednesday- GO2 Thursday- Basketball court and new playground Friday- GO2 Year 5/6: Monday- Basketball court and new playground Tuesday- GO2 Wednesday- Basketball court and new playground Thursday- GO2 Friday- Basketball court and new playground
	Lunch Time	Group	Location
	12:30-1:00	Kindy and SGP	K- GO1 SGP- SGP courtyard and year 1 locations Yr 1- as above Year 2- as above
	1:00-1:30	Years 3-6	Years 3/4 – as above Years 5/6- as above
Before and After School Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children P-6 will be accessing the rooms in the portable building. At the end of each day, preschool students attending Afters will be collected by Anglicare staff and escorted to their designated room At the end of each day, 1 year level teacher will escort children to Afters to sign a paper roll (so there is no sharing of devices) At the end of each day, years 3-6 teachers will send children to Afters. 		
School canteens and uniform stores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please send your child's lunch order with them to the classroom. At approximately 9:30am lunch orders will be dropped outside the canteen. Lunch orders will be distributed to classrooms at eating time <p>Uniforms can now be ordered online at: https://workinggear.com.au/</p>		



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	We will continue to sell hats. Please contact the front office on 61421110 for details
Events and Excursions	In line with Directorate guidelines, there will be no athletics, cross country or swimming carnival this term. The Directorate will review all camps, including our 3/4 and 5/6 camp as the term progresses.

We will continue to review and adjust these measures based on the most up to date advice from ACT Health.

During this time we may experience impacts on our workforce due to the requirements of staff to isolate under ACT Health directions. We will work closely with the Education Directorate to make appropriate adjustments to ensure student and staff safety. This may include using casual relief staff, combining of classes, limiting or cancelling non-essential activities, switching to the provision of supervision only or possibly temporary transition to remote learning.

Remember, all adults and children aged 5 years and above are eligible for vaccination. If your child is eligible but not yet vaccinated, we encourage you to book them in by calling the COVID-19 vaccination line on 5124 7700 daily between 7am-7pm. Bookings can also be made with some [GP clinics and pharmacies](#).

For more information about the return to schools, I'd recommend visiting [the Education Directorate's website](#).

You can keep up to date with the latest health information, advice and resources on the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing all our students back at school.

Kind regards,

Kate Flynn

Principal