

5 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Staggered Return of Students for Term 4, 2021

The Department of Education in consultation with NSW Health has developed a plan to return students to a safe and secure learning environment focused on the prevention of interaction between students across the various student cohorts.

Starting Tuesday 5 October through until the scheduled return date for their year group, students are encouraged to continue with learning from home where possible. The school will continue to provide one program of learning for students who attend school, and students who are learning from home.

Stage-based learning packages will continue to be sent out as per Term 3. Kindergarten - Year 2 packs will continue to be sent out via Schoolzine with student / teacher communication via Seesaw. Year 3 - Year 6 packs will continue to be delivered through Seesaw and Google Classroom.

Return to face-to-face learning

The return to school will be staggered as follows:

- Week commencing Monday 18 October: Kindergarten and Year 1 students will return
- Week commencing Monday 25 October: Year 2 and Year 6 students will return
- Week commencing Monday 1 November: Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 students will return.

This is a staggered return for prioritised cohorts, with no mingling or on-site activities and your support with this process will be greatly appreciated.

Schools will not be operating 2 platforms of learning once all cohorts have been allowed to return. All learning will be provided face to face from Monday 8 November.

Designated student pick up procedures

From the week commencing Monday 25 October, the following student pick-up procedures will be in place.

- **Kindergarten** parents will pick up their children from the Coles gate entrance at 2:40pm. Parents are to remain at the gate and students will be sent out to meet you as you are sighted by staff.
- **Year 1 & 2** parents will pick up their children from the Coles gate entrance at 2:55pm. Parents are to remain at the gate and students will be sent out to meet you as you are sighted by staff.
- **Year 3 & 4** parents will pick up their children from the Oval gate entrance, located near the play equipment at 2:40pm
- **Year 5 & 6** parents will pick up their children from the Oval gate entrance, located near the play equipment at 2:55pm

Please also note that students will be supervised by teachers at the designated pick-up locations until they are collected by parents. No parents will be allowed on school grounds and these staggered pick-up arrangements are organised to avoid this.

Please note that parents will no longer be able to gather at the silver seats to collect their children.

Attendance procedures

As per last term, teachers will be required to mark student attendance during the period of Learning from Home. Students who are not at school, but are Learning from Home as recommended, will be initially marked as absent. This will generate a SMS to be sent to parents. Please respond to this SMS indicating your child is Learning from Home. Once this message has been received by the school your child will be marked as participating in the Learning from Home. This is a legal and child protection requirement. If you do not wish to receive this SMS each day that your child is learning from home, please reply to the first SMS with the date your child is expected to return to site to allow for the roll to be marked accordingly.

Visitors

Non-essential visitors are not permitted on school sites. Parents should:

- follow the physical distancing advice for their local area and avoid gathering outside of school gates
- remain outside of school grounds
- adhere to mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the Service NSW QR code when entering the school.

School Operations

West Pennant Hills Public School is committed to maintaining the health and wellbeing of our students, staff and school community. Until further notice the following restrictions will continue to be in place:-

- All on site staff will be fully vaccinated and required to wear a mask whether working indoors or outside
- Masks, whilst not mandatory for students in the primary school setting, are strongly recommended
- All non-core curriculum related activities on school site will be cancelled
- Restricting non-essential visitors, including parents, to the school. Parents are encouraged to contact the school via email or phone, as required.
- Eliminating non-essential gatherings in the school including assemblies.
- Outside of school hours care (OOSHC) provided by YMCA will continue to operate on site
- Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements.
- No SRE/SEE

As we continue to navigate the evolving situation, I will endeavour to provide parents with regular updates ensuring that we are all fully informed. Information can also be found on the school website and on the Department of Education website. I would like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support and understanding at this time. If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact the school, we are here to assist.

Yours Sincerely
Donna Harris
Principal



Return to onsite face-to-face learning brief overview

For those families who have siblings across year groups I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back on site. But to re-iterate the message above, we need this time to prepare our school and operations for having all our students back so it is essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

Weeks 1-2

Kindergarten to Year 6 Learning from Home

No changes from last term



Week 3 from Monday 18 October

Kindergarten and Year 1 return to onsite learning

Separate playground areas

Kiss and drop at the gate

Staggered pick up arrangements at home time

Separate recess and lunch breaks for different year groups

High level sanitation processes

Additional in-class teacher support

All other students remain Learning from Home

Only double vaccinated staff onsite from this week

Week 4 from Monday 25 October

Year 2 and Year 6 return to onsite learning

Separate playground areas

Kiss and drop at the gate

Staggered pick up arrangements at home time

Separate recess and lunch breaks for different year groups

High level sanitation processes

Additional in-class teacher support

All other students remain Learning from Home



Week 5 from Monday 1 November

Years 3, 4 and 5 return to onsite learning

Separate playground areas

Kiss and drop at the gate

Staggered pick up arrangements at home time

Separate recess and lunch breaks for different year groups

High level sanitation processes

Additional in-class teacher support

Week 6-11 from Monday 8 November

All students now onsite for learning

Separate playground areas

Kiss and drop at the gate

Staggered pick up arrangements at home time

Separate recess and lunch breaks for different year groups

High level sanitation processes

Additional in-class teacher support

