



Erskine Park High School

Pride In Achievement

78-82 Swallow Drive, Erskine Park NSW 2759
Website: erskinepk-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 9834 3536 Fax: 9834 3864
Email: erskinepk-h.admin@det.nsw.edu.au

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As you would have heard earlier this week via media announcements, the direction from the NSW Premier and Education Minister is that all students return to school full time from Monday 25th May, 2020. They have stated that schools are safe and open for full time face-to-face learning, with the majority of staff returning to work and a number of enhanced systems in place to provide additional health and safety measures. Attached to this email is another resource provided by the NSW Department of Education detailing the plans for this full return.

I am very excited about welcoming students back to school and I know that our staff are looking forward to returning to classrooms and working in a more direct manner with students. I also know that they have developed amazing digital skills over the last few months and that there are many aspects of our teaching and learning practices that we will be continuing to use in classroom practice.

The following details need to be highlighted –

- ALL students are expected to return to school from Monday 25th May. If your child has a medical condition which places them at high risk, you must provide a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to that condition. Students who do not attend school will be marked as absent and you will be asked to reply to the usual text message explaining the absence.
- If students are not well, please DO NOT send them to school.
- If you have changed your contact details or emergency contacts, please advise the school – we must be able to contact you in an emergency or if your child becomes unwell.
- The normal school day applies – see the bell times listed below. Students will attend their timetabled classes. Student timetables can be seen in the student/parent portal on Sentral.

MONDAY 25TH MAY IS WEEK A

- Students are expected to be on time for school and to bring all necessary equipment (books, pens, calculators, rulers – due to Health Guidelines, teachers will not be allowed to provide shared items in the classroom), including a laptop. Teachers will continue to use our BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) policy and students will be required to use their device in class. We will return to the usual borrowing process for those students who have approval to use a school device. If your child does not have a device, please ask them to speak with the relevant DP and arrangements will be made.
- Full school uniform is a usual school expectation and students needing uniform items, must report to their DP at the start of the school day. The uniform shop is open and orders can also be placed online.

Our school operations will follow the AHPPC Health Guidelines – Safety remains a priority during the COVID 19 pandemic. Students are expected to maintain our school values and behave 'Above the Line' to protect themselves, their peers, and staff who are at higher risk from

- Hand sanitiser will be regularly provided to all students
- Students will be encouraged to regularly wash their hands
- Students are asked to sneeze/cough into their elbow or into a tissue and dispose of this in the bin immediately
- Students are asked to not share food or drinks
- Students are asked to not share equipment, without wiping it down with the provided antibacterial wipes
- There will be no access to the communal bubblers – students are asked to bring a water bottle and use the refilling stations that have been installed around the school

- All student toilet areas have been fitted with single touch taps to make hand washing easier and we will work with suppliers to maintain levels of soap, hand sanitizer and antibacterial wipes.
- Students will be asked to regularly wipe table tops as they finish lessons.
- Parents and community members are asked to not come onto the school site and if waiting at the gate, please maintain social distancing guidelines (keep 1.5m between each adult).
- High Touch spaces around the school will remain closed and we will make weekly decisions about opening them for students – eg The Peppertree Hub (Teaching and Learning Centre)
- In practical workshops, students will be asked to wipe down the handles of tools and other equipment
- The Canteen will re-open as normal, with restrictions on the number at the counter at any one time.
- There will be NO assemblies, excursions, camps, interschool activities until further notice
- There will be NO community use of the school facilities until further notice
- Students are asked to travel directly to and from school, with no gatherings in public spaces, such as the shops or local parks
- Additional cleaning is being undertaken by Cleaning Contractors, in line with the advice from NSW Health. This includes additional cleaning of hand railings, door handles, light switches and hard surfaces.
- Special arrangements are being planned for PE and Sport sessions to develop ways to use and sanitise sporting equipment appropriately.
- There will be NO face-to-face meetings with staff at this time – Social distancing guidelines remain in place for adults and we will arrange Phone or video conferences if needed.
- The Transport authorities have the responsibility for the public buses and they have been told to NOT turn away any student passengers.

We are also in the process of redesigning student reports and assessments for Semester 1 and we will communicate these changes as soon as possible. I can tell you that reports will not be issued until the beginning of Term 3.

I want to say a very special and heartfelt “Thank you” to every single member of our school community. I have greatly appreciated the trust you have placed in us to make the necessary plans and decisions required throughout this time. I am thankful for the phone calls and questions and, as a parent, I share many of your concerns about the safety of your child – we are working with the guidelines presented to us and we will continue to be adaptable and responsive as new surprises and challenges pop up.

Please feel free to call the school office if you have any questions and you will be directed to the right person for assistance. No question is a bad question and we can only work together if you ask!

Have a great day and I look forward to seeing our students return to school next Monday 25th May.

BELL TIMES

Period	Monday to Friday
Roll Call	8.30am – 8.40am (10)
1	8.40am - 9.55am (75)
2	9.55am – 11.10am (75)
<i>Lunch 1</i>	11.10am – 11.40am (30)
3	11.40am – 12.55pm (75)
<i>Lunch 2</i>	12.55pm – 1.25pm (30)
4	1.25pm – 2.40pm (75)

Kind regards,



Brenda Quayle
Principal

21st May 2020



This guide is for parents and carers

A guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning

Information has been updated as at 19 May 2020, until further notice.



Schools are safe and open for full time face-to-face learning

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. 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
- Year 11 and 12 students may attend classes/ activities relating to subjects available on other campuses
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. Year 10 and 11 work-placement is able to proceed from Term 3 2020.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Use hydrotherapy pools
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online.



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, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.

Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal.

Out of school hours care can continue to operate.

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.





Say hello

📌 @NSWDepartmentofEducation
🐦 @NSWEducation
📷 @NSWEducation
education.nsw.gov.au

© 2020 NSW Department of Education
GPO Box 33 Sydney NSW 2001 Australia
T 1300 679 332

