

28 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday, the ACT Government has released updated COVID-19 guidelines for ACT schools to bring them into line with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions across the broader ACT community. These changes will take place in two stages – from 29 October and 29 November.

These changes will allow us to bring back more of the activities that make school-life so rewarding and engaging, in a COVID-safe way.

Importantly these updates will not change the key measures we have introduced for term 4 including student cohorting and hygiene, ventilation and cleaning, use of the Check In Canberra app for all adults and mandatory mask wearing for staff.

Our school's COVID-19 Safety Assurance Plan will remain in place until the end of term 4 and visitors who are in direct contact with students at our school will still need show evidence of their vaccination status when checking in.

From 29 October, counter service for P&C uniform shops where a COVID safety business checklist is in place along with physical distancing measures can be reintroduced. P&C-run contactless fundraisers can go ahead on school sites with COVID safety measures in place and a minimum number of volunteers.

Individual music lessons conducted by music tutors can resume. Choir, band and orchestra lessons and practice can also take place indoors with appropriate physical distancing. Indoor and contact sports can resume. Students from individual classes and cohort groups can participate in indoor dance classes. Team sports can resume where schools have intra school sporting competitions.

School performances can go ahead outside of school hours in forward facing, fixed and tiered seating venues with capacity limits.

Our year 6 students will be able to undertake transition visits to high school with arrangements in place to minimise mixing between students from different schools during school visits, including staggered visit times.

Staff will no longer be required to wear masks outdoors and essential excursions involving individual classes and year groups will be allowed where they form a core component of the curriculum.

Community hiring of school facilities can resume after hours, including the hiring of gymnasiums for sports such as basketball. However, in order to allow for COVID safe planning and adequate cleaning staff, hiring will not commence until 8 November.

From 29 November, parents and visitors will be able to visit our school for scheduled extra-curricular activities with COVID safety measures in place including check in, physical distancing and the wearing of face masks indoors.

Our key end of year events, including year 6 formals and graduation, performances, and assemblies can take place from the end of November in line with the [ACT Chief Health Officer's End of Year Events Guidelines](#).

The updated guidelines are informed by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee advice for minimising COVID-19 transmission in schools and the Chief Health Officer's [Health Guidelines for Schools and Early Childhood Education Services \(including out of school hours care\)](#).

More information about the measures being taken to stay COVID-Safe in schools upon the return to on campus learning can be found on our COVID-19 school arrangements [web page](#).

Regards,

Jason Holmes
Principal

David Binan
Proviseur

