

University of Canberra High School Kaleen

15 May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As you would be aware, our school will start the transition back to classroom learning from Monday 18 May. We're excited to welcome our students and staff back onsite over the next three weeks. I would like to thank everyone in our school community for their support and patience while we were delivering learning remotely.

When we return to classroom learning, there will be some changes to the way we operate to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

I'm writing to you today to let you know about some of the measures we will be putting in place.

Health and hygiene

There will be a strong focus on ensuring good health and hygiene practices – like hand washing – when we return. Our school has stocked up on soap, hand sanitiser and paper towels and all students and staff will be regularly reminded to wash their hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser. Parents should also encourage their children to wash their hands before they arrive at school. If your child experiences dry or irritated skin with the application of hand sanitiser, please consider a suitable hand moisturiser or something similar.

There will also be a focus on other hygiene measures, including encouraging everyone to cough into elbows or a tissue, placing used tissues in bins, avoiding touching eyes, noses or mouths, no sharing food or drink, not using water fountains or bubblers directly, as well as hygiene measures in the preparation of food products.

Cleaning

Our cleaning services will be extended to deliver dedicated cleaning activities during each school day – particularly on high touch points such as door handles – and an updated cleaning plan will be in place prior to resumption of face to face learning.

If your child is sick

When students return to the classroom, it is important we are vigilant about health and hygiene. This means if your child has any kind of illness, even if it is just a runny nose, they must not come to school. If your child comes to school unwell, you will be asked to collect them. We will be stricter in implementing these rules than you are perhaps used to, but it is for the health and safety of everyone in our school community.

Physical distancing

New physical distancing measures will be in place for adults in our schools. This will be a big change to the way we are used to interacting with our school community.

The ACT Chief Health Officer has advised that schools should limit the gathering of adults on school sites. At our school this will mean adults, including parents and staff, will need to maintain physical distancing between themselves and other adults.

Adults in ACT public schools will need to ensure they keep to the guidelines of maintaining 1.5 metres between themselves and no more than one adult per four square metres in an indoor space (for example in classrooms).

In limiting the number of adults on site, we encourage you to contact us via e-mail or telephone before visiting. If a face-to-face meeting is required, we ask you to book a time so that physical distancing can be planned.

Contact us

If you need to discuss any of the above with us, please call us on 61420490 or email us on uchskaleen.information@ed.act.edu.au.

We look forward to seeing your children return to the classroom in the weeks ahead.

Kind regards,

Daniel Mowbray
Principal
University of Canberra High School Kaleen