



Dear parent and carers,

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

Commencing 25 October (Week 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early childhood centres (ECEC)• Preschool and kindergarten• Years 1 and 2• Year 6• Years 9 and 10• Out of school hours care (OSHC)
Commencing 1 November (Week 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Years 3, 4 and 5• Years 7 and 8
<i>From weeks 1 to 4 of term, onsite supervision and care continues to be available for vulnerable children and young people whose parents are essential workers.</i>	

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.

Use of Check in CBR app	All staff and visitors must check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. Parents and carers cannot enter school grounds except for an essential reason. Visitors must call to make an appointment, or in advance of attendance. All visitors must report to the front office.
Student illness	Staff and students who are unwell are not able to attend school. Students who present unwell will be required to go home.
Hygiene	Schools will maintain and promote appropriate hand hygiene 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.

Masks	Staff, visitors and students* must wear a face mask indoors. 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>* Students will be required to wear their personal masks. Masks will be available at school for those who require them. Disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i>
Physical Distancing	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 promote physical distancing we may adjust learning programs, breaktimes, our timetable as well as pick up and drop off arrangements. More specific information about what this means for your child is included below.
Environmental cleaning	Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch services, frequently used objects, and play equipment.
Ventilation	All schools have been assessed to increase fresh air circulation and this may involve changes to ventilation, modified HVAC system settings and maximising the use of outdoor learning spaces.
Managing suspected cases	We are prepared to respond to a positive COVID-19 case on campus, should the need arise. ACT Health will provide direction to the school and community, which may result in a full or partial school closure. 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.
Will schools have routine testing for COVID-19?	Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should get tested immediately. ACT Health is not recommending routine COVID-19 testing of children, young people or staff using rapid antigen testing.
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. 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.

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

Hygiene routines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers will have a supply of hand sanitiser for use in their classes. • Additional sanitiser will be available in several high traffic locations around the school. • Students are encouraged to wash their hands regularly with soap and water. • Wipes will be provided for regular cleaning of practical equipment, as directed by class teachers.
Teaching and learning	<p>Timetable (attached)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UCHSK school timetable for the return to on site learning, will be a modified version of the existing <i>At Home Learning</i> timetable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Each day will include 3 x 90-minute lessons and 2 breaks. ◦ UCHSK will not return to our pre-lockdown timetable for the return to on site learning. ◦ More information relating to the new timetable and the implications on the school day will be provided in due course. <p>Learning Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be delivered face to face, on site at UCSHK in timetabled classes. • All resources will be added to individual class Google Classrooms. • Those students unable to attend on site will be expected to complete learning activities on the Google Classroom. • Teachers will be available, through the Google Classrooms or via email, to respond to questions and provide support to students learning from home. These responses will be provided in a timely manner. <p>Extra-Curricular Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMP will continue in an outdoor location (details to be provided at a later date). • All other extra-curricular programs will be postponed until further notice.
Break times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be provided clear walking routes onto and off the playground. • Departure from class and return to class following breaks will be staggered. • All students will be outside at break times. • A small number of students will have access to the library during break times, where their behaviour plans or wellbeing require it. • The playground will be divided into two separate areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Northern end of oval, grassed bank, rear of Inclusive Education & Maths, courtyard area immediately outside the canteen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 9/10 @ Recess, 7/8 @ Lunch 2. Southern end of oval, basketball courts, handball courts and associated seating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7/8 @ Recess, 9/10 @ Lunch • Students to enter canteen for food collection, water or toilet breaks only. • Large groups will not be permitted in the building. • Wet weather: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 10 – English / SOSE Open Area • Year 9 – Library • Year 8 – Drama Suite • Year 7 – Gym

Before and after school, including drop off and pick up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Families are encouraged to consider alternate locations for drop off and pick up. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This may include the use of either Sherlock St, Diamantina Cres or Birie Pl. ● Those students accessing the school car park and bus stops in the morning or afternoon must consider appropriate physical distancing. ● Before School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Year 7/8 students will wait at the amphitheatre side of the school and enter through the glass doors at the end of the PE corridor after the bell, once directed by the duty teacher. ○ Year 9/10 students will wait at the rear of the school and enter through the canteen doors after the bell, once directed by the duty teacher. ● After School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All students will exit via the doors at the rear of the school, via the canteen or Maths corridor. ○ This departure will be staggered. ○ A small amount of additional time will be provided to ensure students do not miss their bus. ● Maps attached provide additional clarification.
School canteens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The canteen will operate as counter service. ● These orders can be made through this link to the UCHSK website. ● Canteen order pick up times will be staggered for cohorts during recess and lunch.

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

Remember, all adults and children aged 12 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](#).

We understand that there has been considerable change and uncertainty for our students during the pandemic, and as we transition back to school. I remind you that you and your child can book an appointment with our Telehealth Support Service on 02 6205 1559 between 9.00am and 4.30pm weekdays. With the return to school, your child will also be able to organise face to face sessions with the school psychologist.

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 and understanding as we return to face-to-face schooling.

We look forward to seeing all our students back at school.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Mowbray".

Daniel Mowbray
Principal - University of Canberra High School Kaleen