



Penrith South Public School

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TERM 2 SCHOOL MANAGEMENT (COVID-19 UPDATE)

Dear Parents and Families,

I hope this finds you and your family well. While current circumstances limit social opportunities, I hope that you have enjoyed family time during this holiday period.

Recently, you may have heard the NSW Premier and Education Minister's announcement regarding school operations for NSW public schools in term 2. Please find a brief overview below, which is based on all available information at this time.

School Development Days

Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 April are for **Staff only**.

Term 2 commences for students on Wednesday 29 April

Week 1-2 Online Learning Continues

In weeks 1 and 2 of this term, students will continue to 'learn from home' as they did at the end of Term 1. Students will return to online learning via Google Classroom (K-6). Students who are experiencing challenges accessing online materials can arrange to pick up a home learning pack from our front office.

The school will remain open for students who need to attend. Supervision will be available for these students, and they will engage in the same learning as the students 'learning at home'. As also announced by the NSW Premier, parents are encouraged **'to keep their children at home'**.

The Department of Education has requested one mode of learning, so please be assured that both students 'learning at school' and 'learning at home' will receive the same level of instruction and materials (Please see further information below).

Weeks 3-10 'Phased Managed Return' to School

NSW Public Schools are looking to increase face-to-face teaching through a gradual return to school for students during Term 2. This will be done through a staged approach to balance the needs of students and staff, their families, personal circumstances and workplaces during the pandemic.

From Week 3, every student will have the opportunity to start attending school one day a week, with around 25% of students in attendance on any given day.

Schools will manage the structure of this 'Phased Managed Return' for their context. In other words, the Premier and Department of Education (DoE) expects that every school will do this differently.

During the first week of term 2, our staff will work through the Premier's operational guidelines to create a model for Penrith South Public School that will be communicated to you via our School App and Facebook page. We will also continue to adjust our plans based on any new advice we receive from the NSW Department of Education.

Phased Managed Return to School

NSW Department of Education		PHASE 0	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4
<p>At all times</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools are safe places for students, teachers and staff. All students engage with a single unit of work. Keep up-to-date with your school's communications to make sure you receive important messages about timetable changes. Any identified cases of COVID-19 will continue to be managed in line with health advice, including temporary school closures where necessary. <p>Learning from home</p> <p>Practical resources and guides to support students are available at the department's Learning from home hub.</p>	<p>Schools are open for families who need it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families are encouraged to keep their children at home wherever possible, with no student to be turned away. Students who attend school are supervised only, not in their regular classes. No excursions or inter-school activities. Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements. 	<p>Students at school at least one day per week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools have discretion for establishing which group attends on which day, with a preference to group siblings/families together. Families who need to send their child to school every day may continue to do so and no child will be turned away. Classes are split across different spaces and break times can be staggered. No excursions or inter-school activities. Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements. 	<p>Students at school at least two days per week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools have discretion for establishing which group attends on which day, with a preference to group siblings/families together. Families who need to send their child to school every day may continue to do so and no child will be turned away. Classes are split across different spaces and break times can be staggered. No excursions or inter-school activities. Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements. 	<p>Students at school five days per week, with social distancing measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students with increased health risks may continue to learn at home to suit their individual needs. Students remain in the same classroom for the day, break times can be staggered to reduce mixing between class groups. No excursions or inter-school activities. Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements. 	<p>Students at school five days per week, with full school activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal school breaks and entry/exit processes will resume. Infection control procedures will continue on a school by school basis. Communication to staff, students and families regarding NSW Health advice will continue. Continued communication to the Early Childhood Education sector regarding NSW Health Advice. 	
	<p>You must continue to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your child/children at home if possible. Support your child/children to continue learning at home. Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible. Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell. 	<p>You can now</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send your child/children to school one day a week. You are encouraged to keep your child at home for the rest of the week wherever possible. Check with your school to see which day of the week your child/children should attend. Use the school canteen and uniform shop where appropriate hygiene measures are in place. 	<p>You can now</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send your child/children to school two days a week. You are encouraged to keep your child at home for the rest of the week wherever possible. Check with your school to see which two days of the week your child/children should attend. Use the school canteen and uniform shop where appropriate hygiene measures are in place. 	<p>You can now</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send your child/children to school every day. Access community services: run on school sites, where they are not restricted by Public Health Orders. Use the school canteen and uniform shop where appropriate hygiene measures are in place. Walk your child/children into and out of school while maintaining social distancing. 	<p>You can now</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send your child/children to school every day. Participate in school excursions and inter-school activities. Use playground equipment at schools. Drop your child/children off at school as you would normally do. Participate in school based activities such as volunteering in classes and assemblies. Use services that usually operate at your school like canteens and other community run activities. 	
<p>A managed return to school</p> <p>Guidelines for families</p>		<p>You must continue to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow your school's advice regarding changes to drop off and pick up, including staying in your car when dropping off and picking up your child/children if safe to do so. Maintain social distancing by avoiding gathering outside of school gates. Make sure your child/children have access to lunch and snacks, noting some canteens may not be operating at this stage. Support your child/children to continue learning at home on remote learning days. Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible. Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell. 	<p>You must continue to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow your school's advice regarding changes to drop off and pick up, including staying in your car when dropping off and picking up your child/children if safe to do so. Maintain social distancing by avoiding gathering outside of school gates. Make sure your child/children have access to lunch and snacks, noting some canteens may not be operating at this stage. Support your child/children to continue learning at home on remote learning days. Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible. Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell. 	<p>You must continue to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow your school's advice regarding changes to drop off and pick up, including staying in your car when dropping off and picking up your child/children if safe to do so. Maintain social distancing by avoiding gathering outside of school gates. Make sure your child/children have access to lunch and snacks, noting some canteens may not be operating at this stage. Support your child/children to continue learning at home on remote learning days. Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible. Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell. 	<p>You must continue to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow your school's advice regarding changes to drop off and pick up, including staying in your car when dropping off and picking up your child/children if safe to do so. Maintain social distancing by avoiding gathering outside of school gates. Make sure your child/children have access to lunch and snacks, noting some canteens may not be operating at this stage. Support your child/children to continue to learn at home if they are required to learn remotely. Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible. Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell. 	

The Premier has stated that in Phase 1 children should be kept at home except for their 'rostered day' and has asked parents to 'respect the guidelines' that will be established by the school. Please note that this **does not apply** to those students who need to attend. We tracked the data of these students the last 3 weeks of Term 1 and this will be factored into ensuring that only 25% of students are on site on any given day.

Model of learning

Students learning either at home or at school will continue to engage in learning experiences provided by their teachers. Schools will plan and communicate the recommended time to be allocated to learning. Practical resources and guides to help students learning from home and school staff teaching from home are available at the department's Learning from home hub. <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home/advice-to-parentsand-carers>

We again reinforce the message that we understand these are challenging times and only ask that families do their best. The health and wellbeing of all families is our key priority and encourage you to aim for a balanced approach to learning at home. The table below outlines the recommended time allocations for students participating in learning at school or at home.

A focus on English and mathematics in primary school reflects the expectation that approximately 50% of the school week is devoted to these subjects. Other subjects make up approximately 30-40% and schools have flexibility in how they implement these subjects. You will note that at this time, the suggested learning time ranges from 2 ½ to 3 hours for students depending on which grade they are in. Hopefully this is manageable, but we understand that this may not always be possible.

Suggested curriculum requirements for learning from home and school						
EARLY STAGE 1	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4	STAGE 5	STAGE 6
TOTAL 2.5 hours + other	TOTAL 2.5 hours + other	TOTAL 3 hours + other	TOTAL 3 hours + other	TOTAL 3.5 hours	TOTAL 3.5 hours	Students in Year 11 and 12 will follow their usual pattern of study.
45-60 mins English	45-60 mins English	45-60 mins English	45-60 mins English	30-45 mins English	30-45 mins English	The requirements for major projects in some practical subjects has changed. NESA will continue to provide updates and changes to major projects and/or assessments for specific subjects.
30-45 mins Mathematics	30-45 mins Mathematics	30-45 mins Mathematics	30-45 mins Mathematics	30-45 mins Mathematics	30-45 mins Mathematics	
30-60 mins Other KLAS: Creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, SciTech	30-60 mins Other KLAS: Creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, SciTech	60-90 mins Other KLAS: Creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, SciTech	60-90 mins Other KLAS: Creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, SciTech	90-120 mins Other KLAS: HSIE, science, creative arts, languages, PDHPE, TAS	90-120 mins Other KLAS: HSIE, science, PDHPE and electives	
Other activities: wellbeing, sport, physical activity*	Other activities: wellbeing, sport, physical activity*	Other activities: wellbeing, sport, physical activity*	Other activities: wellbeing, sport, physical activity*	Other activities: wellbeing, sport, physical activity*	Other activities: wellbeing, sport, physical activity*	
<p>Notes KLA = Key Learning Area *where social distancing allows</p>						

I have been incredibly appreciative of the support and understanding that we have received from parents during these unprecedented times in education. I know how challenging this has been for our students and their families. I would also like to thank the extraordinary staff of Penrith South Public School who have gone above and beyond to learn new modes of lesson delivery and technology platforms when designing and creating new content in a short time period to ensure their students' learning and growth continues.

Kind regards,

Craig White

Rel. Principal