



From the Principal

Monday 24 August 2020 OATLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL CONTINUES RETURN TO FACE TO FACE with SOCIAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS still in place for ADULTS and new changes from department and health authorities which began 17 August 2020. Parents should ensure school pick up and drop off arrangements enable them to physically distance from one another and from staff.

Dear Parents

School attendance. 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 and the expected timeframe or they are currently unwell.

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home. NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics. Students and staff with flu like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school. In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home. NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics. Students and staff with flu like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school.

Throughout the week we have requested students go home from school due to flu/cold like symptoms. Thank you to parents for supporting us by taking their child for medical attention or to be COVID tested.

The school has also implemented strategies to support where possible, students will stay within their relevant cohort group (i.e. class, year group, or stage) for all learning activities within their school in order to limit close contacts to the relevant student cohort. This has always been maintained but we have extended this to include playground areas. I would also like to acknowledge the support Canteen has been with this new school site action.

Only providers that are essential to the delivery of curriculum can continue to provide services and programs until further notice.

Parents/carers and other non-essential visitors are not allowed on the school site.

All group singing (choirs) and/or other chanting activities, as well as the use of wind instruments in group settings, are not permitted.

Scripture and ethics classes began on Wednesday 19 August 2020 with extra teacher resources in place to ensure grade/stage based students remained together.

P&C meetings and events must be on-line only.

Parent/teacher meetings will be online unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion.

Our school photos will still proceed on Monday 7 September, 2020. Information has been distributed to students with a hardcopy and via school stream. The note is also on this website FOR PARENTS.

Teachers are still maintaining social distancing procedures therefore professional learning and communication will continue online. Unfortunately COVID restrictions have now included Kindergarten Orientation which we would normally hold in Term 4. We will be providing further information to our new and existing parents about ways we can still disseminate information to you.

Thank you to all the parents who have enrolled their child for 2021 Kindergarten. If parents have new neighbours please let them know that the school is enrolling now. Other than Year 6 could parents please contact the school if their child will not be returning to Oatley PS in 2021.

Our Year 4 students involved in the Opportunity Class test will now be sitting for it at Oatley Public School on Wednesday 18 November 2020. It was due at the end of this term to take place at local high school but this has now been changed to above date and on Oatley PS school site.

Entry to the school for office must be via Letitia Street and signed declarations will be requested by any adult. This too has been updated throughout this week.

I thank the teaching staff this week for working together to ensure these new protocols are implemented as we care about the safety of your children. Volunteer parents especially at the Canteen and we are extremely grateful for the support and flexibility from our Canteen & Uniform Managers. The service they continue to provide for the school community has been extremely valuable under the present restrictions.

Thank you to our Senior Leadership team and SRC for a wonderful fun filled activity day to end this school week. It is a great that our students still acknowledge that there are other children that need help for their health and wellbeing. Thank you OPS students for supporting PAWS for sick kids.

Debbie Hunter

Principal