



St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School
9-13 Panonia Rd,
Wyong NSW 2259
Phone: 4353 2922
Email: scw@dbb.catholic.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

COVID-19 Return to School Roadmap Term 4 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to Week 2!

These are busy days and as previously flagged, today's newsletter contains further clarifying details regarding a safe return of children to school in Weeks 3 and 4. As you know the government changed the roadmap for back-to-school last week. Please see the outline below outlining the new roadmap.

Time	Level of Restriction	Home Based Learning (HBL)
Weeks 1 & 2 5 October	Level 4 - Learning from home (unless needed)	HBL provided for all students
Week 3 18 October	Level 3 plus - Staged return to school K and Yr 1 children return	HBL provided for Yrs 2-6
Week 4 onwards 25 October	Level 3 – Full Return to school All children	Simplified HBL as a transition back to school

This is a welcome change, and I want to reassure you that St Cecilia's has all the necessary health and hygiene processes in place to ensure the safety of our staff and children. To facilitate the full return of students and staff, our roadmap aims to reduce the risks and take into account:

- The complex school site and grounds.
- The provision of segregated learning and recreational spaces for each class/year group.
- Limiting adults attending the site during pick-up and drop-off.
- Allocation of pick-up areas and staggered pick-up arrangements for student groups.
- Reduced numbers of students and staff in areas at any one time.
- Social distancing measures to be implemented for visitors/adults and exemptions for schools within these provisions.
- Additional site cleaning throughout the day and after school.
- Ventilation and air monitoring.
- Strong hygiene practice and the use of preventative equipment.
- Vaccination of staff under the Public Health Order (PHO).

It is understandable that some families are not ready to have their children return to face-to-face teaching, as indicated in the survey on Student Attendance to Return to School in Term 4. Thank you to all those families who took the time to complete this survey.

While Home Based Learning (HBL) will officially cease on the children's allocated return date, we will support families and children who are in the vulnerable category or are not ready to return for varied reasons. I am currently contacting families who indicated through the survey or via email that they are unable or undecided regarding their child's scheduled return date.

As teachers will be teaching face-to-face they will be unable to provide two modes of learning however we will provide home based learning in a simplified form to assist in the transition period, possibly by an alternate teacher, not their class teacher.

Below is a link parents and carers may find informative on the risks involved to children and staff as we all return to school.

[Keynote Address: Dr Nick Coatsworth \(vimeo.com\)](#)

Masks

I have had a few queries about mask wearing and would like to reiterate that all teachers are required to always wear face masks; this supports the safety of children and other adults at school. There are exemptions around disability and emergency situations.

A further reminder that the return to school guidelines *strongly recommend* that Primary children wear masks while at school, which includes travelling to and from school. We understand that for some children mask wearing will be difficult and we recognise that this may not be possible or appropriate for all our children. **We do ask that any child attending school wears a mask if able to do so. Families are required to provide students with their own mask.**

Please indicate in the brief 1 minute survey below if your child/ren will be wearing a mask.

[Mask wearing - Kindy and Year 1](#)

[Mask wearing - Grade 2 - 6](#)

Onsite visitors

A reminder that parents are sadly not allowed onsite. This includes no onsite meetings with any staff members. Please communicate with us by phone 4353 2922 or email to scw@dbb.catholic.edu.au Please try not to 'drop in' to the School Office.

We ask that you please say goodbye to your children at the front gate or if old enough, encourage them to walk on their own, safely to the school gate from a safe drop off point. **Please assist me in limiting the gathering of adults out the front of the school gates in the morning.** I will be on gate duty every morning to greet the children and provide reassurance for those who may be reluctant about the return.

Bubblers

Outdoor and classroom bubblers will be disabled. Students are to have their own water bottle which can be refilled at school. Disposable cups will be available for children as a backup.

Pick up Procedures

A separate email on the staggered pickup times and procedures will be sent out on Thursday 14th October.

Further Preparations for the Return to School

We understand that our children have had quite different experiences of HBL (Home Based Learning) and throughout lockdown. Therefore we are prioritising the health and wellbeing of our children for the remainder of Term 4. To help us we will be utilising many of the resources and expertise at hand.

Class teachers are currently planning lessons to support children's transition back to school, to help with restoring connections and relationships, as well as focus on addressing social and emotional wellbeing. For those who need extra help - our School Counsellor will remain available for referrals after consultation with the class teacher and or myself.

Further Class Based Support - HBL+ Funding

During lockdown CSBB supported schools with some casual teacher relief as part of the HBL+ funding. This support will continue for the duration of Term 4 and will be used on a needs-based model to support those children in most need of extra support either in learning or wellbeing. Mrs Chloe Harrison was employed in this capacity and will continue to work in classrooms or release teachers if required to support learners across the school.



Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten orientation and transition programs are now permitted to take place when at level 3 return. We have already communicated the revised onsite dates to welcome our new children for 2022 along with a virtual orientation session for parents, as parents will not be permitted onsite. The parent session will take place via Zoom on **Wednesday 3rd November 4pm - 5pm**

The remaining Bright Beginnings sessions for our 2022 children will remain as virtual zoom sessions. The dates for these are as outlined in the attached invitation and all resources for these sessions were personally delivered by school staff to our new and upcoming Kindies.

Year 6 Graduation

Guidelines for graduation have not been communicated to schools and are still to be determined by the Government. Once these guidelines are available, we will be able to finalise plans to farewell our graduating Grade 6 students and end of year celebrations.

Return of Devices

All devices will need to be returned with the charger on the first day your child is back onsite. Please ensure that the device has been wiped clean. Please have these together in a snap lock or plastic bag securely tied and labelled. This will make the process of checking off returns much easier. Parents will need to sign off on the return of devices, at the school gate. We ask that you email the school if you are returning a faulty or damaged device. Address the subject of the email **Device Update for Mrs Cumming**.

I hope all this added information goes some way to reassure you that we are determined to make the transition back to school as smooth and safe as possible. If you do have a specific concern, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for assisting us in facilitating the full return to face-to-face learning.

Yours faithfully

Marta Chylewska
Principal

SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

Covid 19 - Safe return to school



Children to be dropped at the front gate and sanitise on entry to school and classrooms.



Face masks to be worn by all teachers and staff. Strongly recommended for primary school children.



Children will eat and play with specified cohort in designated areas



Social distancing for teachers and students where possible



School canteen open for online orders only



No parents or visitors allowed onsite and school pick up will be staggered.



Enhanced cleaning and hygienist services delivered daily.



Regular inspections of fans and air conditioners. Air quality monitors are utilised in classrooms.



Not permitted: sporting competitions, singing, assemblies, school performances, excursions.



Any staff or children with the mildest of COVID 19 Symptoms must get tested and isolate until they receive a negative result. Must be symptom free to return to school.

CLASS PROTOCOLS

Covid 19 - Safe return to school



Children will sanitise upon entry to school & classrooms



Children will wash hands before eating



Children will eat and play with specified cohort in designated areas



Classroom windows and doors will be opened for maximum ventilation



Outdoor lessons where practical



Social distancing where possible.

Awards and Acknowledgements



Congratulations to the following students for their achievements

Academic Achievement

Kinder Gold	Oscar M	Kinder Blue	Ruby S
1 Gold	Cooper K	1 Blue	Neenah M
2 Gold	Izzy S	2 Blue	Elijah D
3 Blue	Axle B	4 Blue	Hallie E
4 Gold	Logan H	5 Gold	Arlo B
6 Blue	Rosario R	6 Gold	Stevie B
Drama	Sachin A 6G	Japanese	Azalia A 4B

Personal Best

Kinder Gold	Archie W	Kinder Blue	Hendrix D
1 Gold	Jayde G	1 Blue	Kyra R
2 Gold	Sophia L	2 Blue	Vivien K
3 Blue	Flynn W	4 Blue	Alison W
4 Gold	Billy K	5 Gold	Sienna C
6 Blue	Elysse H	6 Gold	Elliot K
Library	Eva W1G	Library	Charlotte K 5G
Drama	Aaliah L 5G	Japanese	Ashton B 2B

PBL Award

Kinder Gold	Benji I	Kinder Blue	Benjamin L
1 Gold	Elijah A	1 Blue	Parker G
2 Gold	Hannah B	2 Blue	Lilian N
3 Blue	Johnny M	4 Blue	Kenzi G
4 Gold	Abdur R	5 Gold	Isabella S
6 Blue	Sacha B	6 Gold	Sachin A
Drama	Grace C 5G	Japanese	Aaliyah L 5G