

P&C Meeting – 19.08.20 - Principal's Report

1. COVID- 19 – Updated School Guidelines

New guidelines provided by the DoE to all schools on Monday 17 August – to be in effect by Wednesday 19 August – which now include:

1. Student & staff health, absences & condition of return to school:
 - as outlined via Skoolbag notice – Monday 17 Aug.
 - any flu type symptom – should not come to school until symptom free / COVID-19 test required & result sighted by school before student and/or staff member returns to school site.
2. Schools need to limit contact & activities to year groups or stage groups whenever possible:
 - this includes in school & lunchtime programs / extra-curricular programs, reduce cross stage activities within the school ie: string ensembles / press gang / chess club / SRC & student assemblies
 - school is currently working on how we can accommodate operations without having to postpone more info to come.
3. Activities such as choirs, chanting and the use of wind instruments are not permitted – impacts directly on:
 - a. Senior & Junior Band - face to face before school rehearsals:
 - students are encouraged to continue with tutoring until rehearsals are permitted.
face to face tuition for wind instruments at the school can continue (the school has provided on site tutors with specific protocols / hygiene supplies in classrooms / 'visitor acknowledgement form' to be completed on every visit)
 - student invoices for Term 3 music fees will be adjusted to reflect current change from this week till term end.
 - b. K – 6 Music Specialist Program:
 - Ms Findlay will adjust her K – 6 class program to not include singing and / or chanting activities within class groups.
 - c. SRE / Ethics:
 - volunteers will be advised that no singing and / or chanting is permitted during student sessions.
4. Schools must not travel outside of their local community area or zone for all interschool activities:
 - All interschool sport and or physical activities must remain within the local community or zone.
 - the mixing of students from different schools is not permitted
 - larger events eg. round robins, PSSA sport, gala days are not permitted
 - festivals – choir, dance, instrumental are not permitted
5. Professional learning for all staff should be conducted online:
 - staff PL should not be conducted face to face unless it is absolutely necessary.
 - only essential compliance training that involves mandatory face to face demonstration for certification can be attended by staff (consideration for staff minimal numbers) & strict physical requirements must be adhered to by the school and all attending staff.
 - staff administration, stage and team group meetings eg. LST / PBL – currently reviewing in-school procedures.

6. Only essential external providers to the delivery of curriculum can continue to provide services / programs on school site until further notice. Use of non-essential curriculum adult or external providers are to cease:
- a. Impacts directly on Chess Club and Press Gang – consideration to be given to online access only
 - b. Music tutors – on site, face to face - can continue.
 - specific physical & hygiene requirements as outlined to each tutor to be adhered to when on site;
 - ‘visitor acknowledgement form’ to be completed on every visit.
 - c. Sportspro – Gymnastics program
 - can continue for stages 2 & 3 & preschool during Term 3.
 - T4 Gym program expected to continue – pending any updated advice.
 - d. SRE / SEE program
 - can continue – pending further advice.
 - recommenced T3 Wk 3 on a rotational week basis (ES1 & S1 – Thursday – odd weeks @ 2:15 – 2:45pm / S2 & S3 – Thursday – even weeks @ 2:15 – 2:45pm)
7. Non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at any school events:
- a. Canteen and / or uniform shop parent volunteers are permitted
 - specific physical & hygiene requirements to be adhered to when on site
 - ‘visitor acknowledgement form’ to be completed on every visit.
 - b. Construction and / or maintenance providers may attend schools for asset related activities.
 - specific physical & hygiene requirements to be adhered to when on site
 - ‘visitor acknowledgement form’ to be completed on every visit.
 - c. P&C meetings to continue online only.
 - d. P&C social events or functions are not permitted.
 - e. Face to face parent - teacher meetings are not permitted
 - except in the event of severe disciplinary or welfare issues – physical distancing & hygiene requirements to be adhered to.
 - T3 parent / teacher scheduled interviews will not go ahead as had been planned. Parents & caregivers & teachers are encouraged to make direct contact via email / phone interviews to discuss student progress, during this term.

Principals may continue to restrict, limit or prohibit activities if deemed to be contrary to the advice of the day and should escalate any issues or concerns to their Director, if required.

What must / can continue:

- a. Physical distancing remains for adults. All school staff need to remain vigilant and physically distancing when on school site to minimise risk of transmission;
- b. Physical distancing of adults outside of the school – re: parents & carers at school drop off & pick up. Parents & caregivers are required to physical distance from one another and from school staff at the gates. Large congregations during these times are discouraged;
- c. Enhanced cleaning on school site before, during and after school day;
- d. Hygiene measures throughout the day as per previous terms – regular handwashing & sanitising by all school staff & students during the day;

- e. Face masks and temperature screening – guidelines do not require schools to conduct widespread temperature screening or mandate the wearing of masks. Accommodations are made for Staff and students who wish to wear at school;
- f. Library access – ensuring that staff maintain physical distancing;
- g. Student assemblies – limited to 15mins only – stage groups only & no external visitors;
- h. Health providers, wellbeing & case management professionals eg. speech and / or occupational therapists;
- i. Tertiary education students – practicum teaching;
- j. Official visitors and dignitaries – consistent with current health protocols;
- k. School photographs - staff photos can be taken providing physical distancing requirements are met.

What is on hold until further notice:

- a. Kindergarten & Preschool orientations;
- b. School excursions – (except walking field trips to local area);
- c. School camps;
- d. School graduations and formals – except for Yr 12 assembly (specific guidelines are provided for high schools);
- e. Interstate excursions;
- f. School or community run playgroups;
- g. Face to face professional learning for school staff;
- h. Parent & carers attendance at assemblies and other school events;
- i. Parent & carer volunteers in schools eg. classroom help;
- j. School based activities that involve large groups of gathering adults eg. parent community groups / working bees / fundraisers / school BBQs / large parent information sessions / large onsite cultural events etc;
- k. Interschool sport, drama, debating, and other events that are not in local area including gala days & regional sporting carnivals;
- l. Certain large arts and / or sport events have been cancelled or delayed.

2. Staffing update

- Mr Raymond Hope has extended leave – position to continue to be filled by Mr John Galea 2.5 x days per week (LaST position) till the end of 2020.

3. New Curriculum Reform – conducted by Professor Geoff Masters (April 2020)

- NSW Gov't reforming curriculum from K – 12. New school curriculum will:
 - a. Build stronger foundations in literacy & numeracy with new English & Mathematics syllabuses for K – 2 students;
 - b. Give more teaching time to concentrate on deep learning by reducing the clutter and non-essential learning & compliance requirements;
 - c. Better prepare yr 11 & 12 students for future work & study in new areas & career paths;
 - d. Will be rolled out for schools to review & start planning during 2020. New NSW curriculum to be introduced over the next 4 years. With new syllabus expected in 2022 – for K – 2 in English & Mathematics.

4. School Excellence in Action

- Launched by DoE – beg. T3 – policy designed to provide direction for schools to lead strategic improvement planning, annual reporting, self-assessment and external validation using the school's excellence framework;

- School Improvements Plan to be developed over a 4 year cycle;
- Each school plan to have 3 strategic directions. SD 1 for all schools will be “Student Growth & Attainment”. Remaining strategic directions to be determined to reflect & respond to their own context;
- Each year, schools will undertake a ‘situational analysis’ for school use only and a self-assessment of practice using the Schools Excellence Framework (SEF) to identify areas of strength and development;
- Once during this 4 yr cycle, each school will undertake an external validation of evidence with an external panel to have their self-assessment validated using the SEF;
- Recommendations will inform the school’s planning for future and are reported in the school’s annual school report;
- During T3, Carole Green and I are currently compiling the school’s situational analysis including the reviewing of internal and external data over past 3 – 5 years (eg. NAPLAN, attendance, school enrolment, financial resources, staffing and retention as well staff & focus group surveys) to determine our school’s current position with regards to the SEF in learning, teaching and leading domains.

5. Lords Road Development – update:

- Met with building contractors and project manager with DoE Asset officer to review concerns raised re: asbestos, noise pollution, traffic concerns & general safety (Mon. 27.7.2020);
- Contractors were very open & willing to work with school to ensure that school students & staff were not heavily impacted by work – school has been receiving regular communication;
- Provision of all certification and copies of hazardous materials assessments have been received by the school from contractor (re: asbestos / clearances);
- Removal of internal walls - agreed to be undertaken over weekend to reduce impact on students & staff (Sat. 1.8.2020);
- Safety fence & exclusion zone created in junior playground to ensure all student & staff on site are safe during removal process – currently on site for past 2 weeks;
- Demolition work expected to be completed by end August;
- Some work & access to school site to be undertaken during holiday periods to reduce disruption to regular school operations – pending;
- All building work expected to be completed by end T1, 2021.

6. Upcoming:

- a. “Tell Them From Me” – parent / caregivers, teaching staff & student survey (yrs 4 – 6) coming out in next fortnight;
- b. “Yrs K – 5 – 2021 Student Enrolment Intentions” via Skoolbag - to assist with class structure planning for the following year;
- c. Naidoc Week – moved to T4 - 8 – 15 November (T4) school will be looking at completing class & school based at end of T3, leading up to.