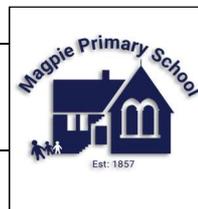


MAGPIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL PLANS TERM 1 2021



The Department of Education has released the most recent Operations Guide to support schools to plan for continued safe and effective operations in 2021. The advice in the guide aligns with Victorian coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions under “COVID SAFE SUMMER”. Key behaviours required for reducing coronavirus transmission risk include **STAYING HOME WHEN UNWELL, PERFORMING REGULAR HAND HYGIENE AND WHERE POSSIBLE PURSUING STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT PHYSICAL DISTANCING**. School guidelines regarding these are listed in this document.

Following the recent series of announcements by the Victorian Government and DET, Magpie Primary School will be operating as normal (on-site learning) for all year levels from **Thursday 28th January with Wednesday 27th being a Curriculum Day**.

Thank you for your ongoing support so that we can work together to keep our school and community safe and healthy. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Thursday 28th January.

We have developed the following plans to ensure we are adhering to the latest government guidelines in regards to social distancing and safe hygiene practices. **Please note that the social distancing measures relate to adults, not the students.** The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) has advised that a ‘venue density rule’ of no more than one person per two square metre is not appropriate or practical in classrooms or corridors, nor maintaining 1.5 metres between students during classroom activities. Therefore, the previous established ratio of 10 students per class is no longer required in schools

PARENTS ONSITE

As the main risk of introducing coronavirus to the school environment is from adults, close proximity between adult members of the school community should be continue to be avoided, particularly during school drop off and pick up. It is imperative that parents, carers and staff do not congregate in breach of continuing restrictions. We encourage staff and parents to maintain physical distancing measures by not congregating in areas inside or outside the school.

All parents are allowed back on school site following the below guidelines:

- Please attempt to limit your time on school site to **less than 15 minutes**.
- We continue to encourage parents to drop and pick up students from the school gates if possible
- If you foresee that you may be on site for longer than 15 mins you **MUST** come through the front office and sign in, so your details can be collected.
- All adults on site are to maintain appropriate physical distancing – 1.5 metres between adults and current density limits of **ONE PERSON PER TWO SQUARE METRES**. **Given this**, we ask parents **to not go into classrooms** unless they have an appointment.
- If you would like to meet with a teacher, parents are still required to organise a meeting with the teacher of through the office and **ALWAYS** sign in through the front office.
- We will not be having parent helpers in classrooms until further advice is given by The Department of Education.

SCHOOL TIMES

School times will return to normal times for all students. Students are required at school at 9.00am and all students will be dismissed at 3.10pm.

• LATE ATTENDANCE

If your child has arrived late to school parents can either drop their child off and we will assist the student to sign in and get to class or parents can briefly walk their child into the office and sign them in. Please remember when entering the building to wear a mask and maintain social distance.

• EARLY LEAVERS

If your child is required to leave school early, parents can call the office to arrange pick up time and then come into the office briefly wearing a mask to pick up the student and sign them out. We encourage that students are only picked up early from school if it is extremely necessary eg: medical appointment, dentist

ATTENDANCE

All students are expected to attend on-site schooling and we encourage our parent community to assist us in being vigilant in keeping students at home if unwell or displaying any of the below symptoms.

Please ensure your contact details are up to date (use Compass) so that we can call you if your child is sick or injured.

NEW DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING STUDENTS HOME IF UNWELL

The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), is to ensure that any unwell staff and students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.

The Symptoms of Corona Virus to watch out for released from the DET are:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss or change in sense of smell or taste.

Some people may also experience headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Students with underlying conditions (such as hay fever or asthma)

If a student has persistent symptoms due to an underlying condition such as hay fever or asthma, the student should still be tested for coronavirus (COVID-19) if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms.

Parents/carers should also consider getting a medical certificate from the child's treating GP to confirm that it is safe for them to attend school with persistent symptoms that may overlap with some of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) such as cough or runny nose.

Young children with persistent mild symptoms

Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post-viral symptoms such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school following a negative coronavirus (COVID-19) test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

Any worsening of symptoms will require review and repeat coronavirus (COVID-19) testing, if considered appropriate by the doctor.

Students with a negative coronavirus (COVID-19) test whose symptoms have completely resolved do not need a medical certificate to return to the school.

• CONTACT WITH SCHOOL

If, for any reason, you need to contact school, please continue to use Compass or call/email the office.

Phone: 5335 8851

Email: magpie.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Contact with class teachers should be through Compass, emailing the school email or calling the school.

• PARENT HELPERS

There will be no parent helpers permitted on-site until further advice is given by The Department of Education.

• BREAKFAST CLUB

At this stage, Breakfast Club will be running on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Thank-you to the staff who have volunteered to assist with Breakfast Club.

Breakfast Club will begin from Tuesday the 2nd of February. If parents are interested in helping with Breakfast Club, please contact the school.

• SAFE HYGIENE PRACTICES

Hand sanitiser and hand soap will be available throughout the school and at the entrance of each classroom. Teachers will continue to implement regular hand washing routines throughout the day. Students can bring their own hand sanitiser from home to use in the classroom, particularly if they are sensitive to specific ingredients. We will also have additional cleaning at the end of each day, focusing on cleaning high traffic areas, door handles and the like. Age appropriate education and reminders about hand hygiene will be provided.

Outdoor air ventilation will also be promoted in classrooms with windows being open for air flow where practicable.

We would ask you to talk with your children about how to wash their hands thoroughly and why we are doing this so that the process is not a difficult one for your child.

• FACE COVERINGS IN SCHOOLS

All school-based staff must wear face coverings at school if unable to maintain 1.5 metre distance from other adults. Teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face coverings while teaching.

Students who attend primary school will not be required to wear a face covering. Students who are aged 12 or over by Year 6 are not required to wear face coverings.

Parents/carers will be required to wear face coverings whenever they are in a situation that they cannot appropriately social distance and also are requested to wear a face mask when entering the school building.

• TEMPERATURE SCREENING

The Department has determined that temperature screening is **not** compulsory for all students on a daily basis.

Once we return to on-site schooling all students that present at sick bay feeling unwell will have their temperature screened as part of their care program and DET guidance will be followed as outlined below.

Temperature thresholds and required actions

TEMPERATURE READING	REQUIRED ACTION
Less than 37.5°	Student advised to proceed to class.
Equal to or greater than 37.5° on first reading	The student should be asked to wait in a separate room and have their temperature re-checked in 15 minutes. If the student is wearing outerwear, the staff member should suggest the child remove this once they are indoors.
Equal to or greater than 37.5° on second reading	The student should return home with their parent/carer. If parent/carer is not present, the student will need to be isolated and the parent/carer contacted to collect them from school as soon as possible. Families should be encouraged to seek the advice of their healthcare professional who can advise on next steps and coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

• ASSEMBLIES/CAMPS/EXCURSIONS

Camps and excursions will be able to resume this year. Further information regarding what excursions and camps are organised will be sent out closer to the dates.

Whole school assemblies will once again be held on a Friday with only staff and students attending. Unfortunately at this stage we are unable to have other community members and families attend.

• PLAYGROUND

Students will be allowed to use the playground equipment as usual with no restrictions in place.

• WATER BOTTLES

Students should bring their own water bottles for use at school. Most bubble drinking taps have been replaced with normal taps so students can use them to refill water bottles. Spare water bottles will be available from the front office if students do not have one.

We are excited about seeing our students this year. We need your help to ensure that we all continue to be safe. Please read over these items carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, please make contact with us so that we can work together to have the best outcomes for you and your child as well as all other children and staff.

Penelope Ellis

Principal

Magpie Primary School