

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing with updated information for week 3 term 2 2022.

Drawing on national and local health advice, we have been able to further update our school plans with recent changes to the public health advice, which has three key priorities:

- the health and safety of staff and young people
- the mental and emotional well-being of students and staff, and
- ensuring continuity of learning.

Below is an outline of [ACT Health Guidelines](#) that schools are required to implement to ensure effective COVID-19 measures are in place.

<b>Student illness</b>	Anyone who is unwell, or symptomatic must not be at school or preschool. This applies to staff and students. If they attend when unwell, they will be sent home.
<b>Masks</b>	The use of face masks will be eased from term 2 week 3. In line with the ACT Public Service WHS arrangements, all staff should continue to wear masks when physical distancing of 1.5 meters can't be maintained- eg when providing personal care to a student, when working in close contact with other staff or students, or when travelling to excursions. Masks are not however required when teaching when physical distancing can be maintained, when outdoors, or when eating and drinking. Wearing of masks by staff under these circumstances is considered a reasonable WHS precaution to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Students and visitors are not required to wear masks on school sites, though are encouraged to do so where it suits them. Children in preschool to year 2 should not wear masks as they are likely to be worn incorrectly and may present a choking hazard. <i>* Masks will be available at school for those who require them. Disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i>
<b>Minimising mixing</b>	Cohorting is no longer required however where learning cohorts are mixed, we will consider additional mitigations such as minimising the length of time or the number of students or staff participating in organised activities together. The usual COVID smart behaviours will be encouraged, including physical distancing where possible, practicing good hand and respiratory hygiene practices, and staying home if unwell.
<b>Hand hygiene and COVID smart behaviours</b>	Schools will maintain and promote hand and respiratory hygiene practices. Students will need to wash hands and use hand sanitisers throughout the day.

<b>Environmental cleaning</b>	Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch point services, frequently used objects, common areas, toilets and play equipment.
<b>Ventilation</b>	All schools are following an Indoor Air Quality Plan. Improved ventilation and increased outdoor learning will be implemented where appropriate. Ventilation systems have been adjusted to increase fresh air circulation and plans will be updated to reflect improvements made since 2021
<b>Vaccination</b>	The ACT has one of the highest vaccination rates of any city in the world and this is reflected in our teaching workforce. COVID-19 vaccinations are also mandated for staff working across early childhood education and care services, preschools, primary schools, Out of School Hours Care, specialist school settings and P-10 schools, or schools that share campus space with students in year 6 or below. These requirements are in place until the conclusion of the public health emergency.
<b>Visitors and use of Check in CBR app</b>	Check in is no longer required for staff and visitors on school sites, but QR codes should continue to be displayed for voluntary use by staff and visitors, as well as by community hirers who may still be legally required to use the Check in CBR app. Timely and accurate student attendance roll marking is to be completed for each class. In addition, permitted activities that involve parents and carers, are held indoors and during school hours should be ticketed to ensure contact can be made should a COVID-19 exposure occur onsite.
<b>Wellbeing supports</b>	Wellbeing and learning supports, such as face to face appointments with the school psychologist or access to a Learning Support Assistant, will continue. They can be accessed through the schools established referral process. For parents and carers of students with a medical vulnerability: If you wish the school to make reasonable adjustments for the safe return of your child, you must consult a GP and provide medical advice to that effect. Where adjustments can't be made, the school will support your child to learn from home.
<b>Managing COVID-19 in schools</b>	<p>We are prepared to respond to a positive COVID-19 case on campus. A student who presents with symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated with suitable supervision, and parents will be required to collect their child. Symptomatic students will be required to wear a mask. Symptomatic staff and visitors will be advised to travel directly home.</p> <p>If a staff member, child, young person or visitor is diagnosed with COVID-19 and has attended a school site during their infectious period, they are required to advise their school.</p> <p>Where a COVID-19 case in a school leads to students and staff being assessed as at risk of exposure, those impacted will be informed by the school about what they are required to do in line with ACT Health requirements. If the exposure is considered low risk, students and staff will continue to be able to attend school while closely monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms.</p> <p>Risk assessments are based off the ACT Health Guidelines for Schools.</p>
<b>COVID-19 screening</b>	<p>Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should get a PCR or Rapid Antigen Test immediately.</p> <p>Free Rapid Antigen Tests will be provided to all staff and students for term 2 on request. Rapid Antigen Testing will be voluntary for staff and students. Students and staff will do the tests at home and are required to report any positive test results to their school and to ACT Health.</p>

<p><b>Student Drop off and pick up</b></p> <p><b>From Monday 9 May Term 2 (week 3)</b></p>	<p>Entry gates are open to all year groups.</p> <p><b><i>PLEASE NOTE: ENTRY GATES WILL BE OPENED AT 8:30am with Limited supervision on Junior and Senior playground areas</i></b></p> <p><b><i>All students in Years K – 6: Start time 9:00am, Pick up time 3:00pm</i></b></p> <p>Except where otherwise arranged, preschool and kindergarten students will be handed over between parents and staff and year 1-6 students will enter and be released from classes without parents.</p> <p><b>Any students arriving after 9:10am</b> will need to come through the front office as all other gates will be closed.</p> <p>Preschool children will be met by staff at the lower gate on the Chapman shops side at 9:00am and escorted back to families to be collected from the same gate at 3.00pm.</p>
<p><b>Hygiene routines</b></p>	<p>Hand sanitiser will be located at the entry to each classroom and students will sanitise as they enter and leave the classroom and periodically throughout the day as needed.</p>
<p><b>Teaching and learning</b></p>	<p>The delivery of Languages, Music, PE and Information Literacy by the specialist teachers will be for years K-6.</p>
<p><b>Break times</b></p>	<p>Eating Time will be 11:00am -11:10am; Break times will be 11:10am-11:50am; 1:20pm-2:00pm for year levels K-6 with identified areas for years K-2; years 3-6.</p>
<p><b>Before and After School Care</b></p>	<p>Children attending before school care will be released to move to classes at 8.55am and those attending in the afternoon will be released from class at 3pm and asked to make their way directly to the After School care building.</p>
<p><b>School canteens and uniform stores</b></p>	<p>The canteen and uniform shop will operate on the usual days and over the counter sales.</p>

**Year level breakdown:** Preschool, Years K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

- ✓ This will include specific breaktime areas for K-2; 3-6
- ✓ Student year levels will have identified shared areas and use of shared spaces will be staggered
- ✓ Where possible, mixing of staff cohorts will be minimised by assigning or staggering the use of common areas, such as staff rooms and facilities.

**Ventilation:** Chapman school has been assessed with plans in place to increase fresh air circulation.

- ✓ Chapman classrooms have external ventilation and HVAC System so the fresh air source can be readily controlled
- ✓ Windows and doors to be open where possible
- ✓ Teachers to maximise use of outdoor learning environments to help with fresh air, (courtyards attached to classrooms, outdoor areas).

**Cleaning:** Chapman has a plan to ensure regular cleaning.

- ✓ Managed by indoor cleaners: high touch surfaces (such as handrails and desks), frequently used objects (such as desk top computers), common areas, toilets, play equipment.

**Bathroom Allocation:** Where possible year groups to use only bathrooms assigned to them.

<b>Preschool</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Preschool Bathrooms	Kinder Bathrooms	Year 1 Toilets	Year 2 Toilets	Year 3 Toilets	Hall Toilets	Specialist Building Toilets	Year 6 Toilets

We may experience impacts on our workforce due to the requirements of staff to isolate under ACT Health directions. We will work closely with the Education Directorate to make appropriate adjustments to ensure student and staff safety. This may include using casual relief staff, combining of classes, limiting or cancelling non-essential activities, switching to the provision of supervision only or possibly temporary transition to remote learning. You can keep up to date with the latest health information, advice and resources on the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

James M. Barnett  
Principal  
Chapman School