



Thornton Public School

Respectful, Responsible, Resilient



Dear Parent / Caregiver,

We are currently in Phase 0 of the Government's managed return to school strategy which is a sensible and gradual return to school. In Phase 0 we are open for those families who need us but you are encouraged to keep your children at home wherever possible. Next week we move to phase 1 where all students are at school one day per week. Today we have seen a 30% spike in student attendance numbers from the numbers we have had in the last few days.

The reason for the managed return to school is to ensure student and staff safety given that Covid-19 is still a concern in our community. We have already seen a NSW school have to shut its doors this week due to a confirmed case of Covid-19. We welcome every one of our students at Thornton PS and look forward to returning to normality. However, the managed return to school strategy is the preferred model for NSW and we encourage all parents to send their child on their allocated day wherever possible.

Families who need to send their child to school every day may continue to do so and no child will be turned away. We are advised to maintain a staff to student ratio of about one teacher to ten students so it would be helpful if parents were to advise us that their child/children will be attending on days other than their allocated day. If you know your child will be attending five full days per week or three days per week because of your work commitments then please email the school and let us know. This way we can factor in the students who will only be attending one day a week and arrange appropriate staff to student ratios. This will also assist us with effective cleaning of the classes we need to use as we can target our cleaning accordingly.

Phase 0

- Keep your child/children at home if possible.
- Support your child/children to continue learning at home.
- Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible.
- Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell.

Phase 1

- Send your child/children to school one day a week.
- You are encouraged to keep your child at home for the rest of the week wherever possible.
- Follow your school's advice regarding changes to drop off and pick up, including staying in your car when dropping off and picking up your child/children if safe to do so.
- Maintain social distancing by avoiding gathering outside of school gates.
- Make sure your child/children have access to lunch and snacks, our canteen will not be operating at this stage.
- Support your child/children to continue learning at home on remote learning days.
- Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible
- Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell.



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If you have not received your email that was sent last Thursday informing you which day your child/children is allocated to attend school in Week 3, please contact our office by phone or email. Term 2 Learning Materials for learning at home are available on our school website and can be collected from the school office from 9.30am by buzzing Gate 3 and a staff member will bring the learning material to the gate.

Regards,

Stuart Wylie

Principal



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Education

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