



Hawkesbury High School

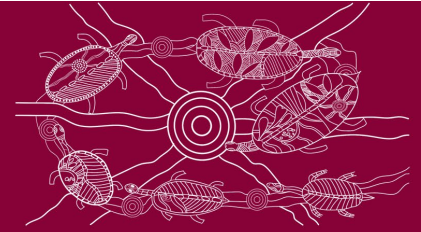
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18 October, 2021

Return to Face-To-Face Learning – Frequently Asked Questions

What will the school day look like when students return to face-to-face learning?

School will resume for all students on **Monday, 25 October** for all years 7-11. Students will follow their normal timetables, beginning with Monday, **Week B**. Teaching and learning will be face to face, as it was prior to the lockdown.

The school day will have 5 periods, as before, but there will be **three breaks** – **Break 1** (recess), **Break 2** (additional break) and **Break 3** (lunch). The school day will start with Period 1 at 9 am. There will be no roll call and student daily attendance will be marked at the beginning of Period 1 at 9 am. Some senior students may have a timetabled “zero” period at 8:10 am. Wednesday is a Sport day and it finishes at 1:50 pm.



Will students continue with their online lessons at school?

No. Dedicated lessons through Google Classroom will no longer take place once students return to face-to-face learning. In some cases, teachers may briefly finish off or continue with some of the work that was posted on Google Classroom, but all instruction will be face-to-face. However, Google Classroom will continue being used as a valuable learning tool, which includes communication, posting of homework and class worksheets, submitting assignments, etc.



What do students need to bring to school?

All students should bring their books and other required equipment for their timetabled lessons. We also recommend that students bring their devices, if they have one, as we are a BYOD school and we encourage students to use their devices in line with the school’s BYOD policy. While all teaching will be face-to-face, laptops are very useful learning tools that can assist with teaching and learning.



Are school buses running?

Yes. School buses are running to their normal schedules. No student will be turned away from a school bus. Students must follow NSW Health guidelines related to mask wearing on public transport.



When will the uniform shop and the canteen resume their normal operations?

Students are expected to wear their full school **uniform** when they return to school. The uniform shop is currently taking online orders on <https://theschoollocker.com.au/schools/hawkesbury-high-school>. Orders can be picked up from the front office.



The school **canteen** will be open, but it will not provide counter service. All orders will have to be made **before 9 am**, and order pick ups will take place at the start of each break in dedicated year group lines.





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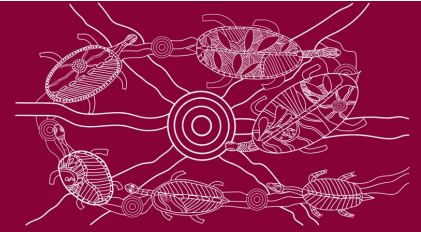
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What is happening with assessment and reports?

Students were expected to engage with schoolwork through Google Classroom while they were learning from home. Teachers have used evidence of student learning to determine their progress and areas for improvement. This information will be used to determine students' levels of achievement, in addition to the work they will complete when they return to face-to-face learning. While some adjustments may be initially made to teaching and learning activities, teachers will have sufficient information to assess student progress. Semester 2 reports will be published on the Sentral Portal at the end of Term 4.



Will Year 12 HSC exams proceed as planned?

Yes. Year 12 HSC exams will go ahead. HSC exams will be run by the same external team and supervisor that ran trial HSC exams at the end of Term 2 Arrangements will be put in place for an alternative exam venue should the school have to close briefly due to COVID. Detailed information will be published closer to the commencement of HSC exams on 9 November.



Does my child have to attend?

Yes. All students are expected at school unless they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition, or if they are currently unwell.



What will the school do to minimise risk to students?

All staff must be fully vaccinated if they are on the school site from 18 October. Students and staff must also wear face masks indoors, and all classrooms will be ventilated. Different student cohorts will be separated as much as possible, with separate playground areas, staggered bells at the end of breaks, and separate toilets for different year stages. The school will have additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Target areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets. Hand sanitiser will also be readily available. There is also a clear plan in place for the school to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation arises.



What health and hygiene practices are schools implementing?

The school will implement, encourage and expect good hygiene practices. This includes reminding students to:

- wash their hands frequently with soap and water before and after eating and after going to the toilet
- cover their nose and mouth when they cough or sneeze
- avoid touching their faces
- limit physical contact when greeting people
- limit physical contact in the playground
- wear face masks indoors



Events like assemblies, excursions, school camps, transition events and end of year celebrations cannot run while the school is at Level 3 or Level 3+ restrictions. Any planning for graduations, awards ceremonies and school formals must take current restrictions into account



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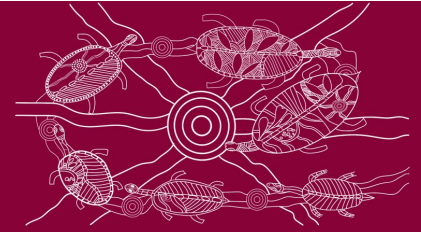
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to provide as much certainty as possible and run in a safe manner. Students will not be able to use bubblers, but bottle re-fill spouts will be available to re-fill drink bottles.

What if I decide to keep my child at home?

All students are expected back at school unless they are sick or have an ongoing medical condition. Students who are absent without a valid reason, will be marked absent, unexplained. Normal attendance procedures will apply to follow up on student absences. Separate work for students whose parents have decided to keep them at home will not be provided. Students who are at home because they are sick or have an ongoing medical condition will be supported with appropriate learning resources so they can continue their engagement with learning and school.



My child is yet to receive their second COVID-19 vaccination. Can I keep my child at home until they are fully vaccinated?

The school is aware that many parents have planned their children's vaccinations around availability of appointments and the original return to school timetable which would have seen students return to face to face learning in November. If your child is yet to have their COVID vaccinations, or you have an appointment scheduled, and you would like to keep your child at home until they are fully vaccinated, please contact the school.

