

6th May 2022

Dear Fantastic Fadden Families

This week I have a lot of news to share with families and have tried to structure this week's Wrap Up to assist families to easily access this information. I encourage you to read to the very end of my very long letter to you this week, to ensure you are across a number of very important updates.

Changes to COVID-19 restrictions in ACT public schools

It has been wonderful to welcome our students and families back for a new school term. Students have immersed themselves in learning and are continuing to follow our COVID Smart practices.

I am pleased to let you know that from Monday 9 May 2022, ACT public schools will further relax COVID-19 restrictions. All public schools will adopt recent changes to ACT public health directions and follow a [COVID-19 Management Plan](#), based on Australian Health Protection Principal Committee principles.

An overview of the changes is below. (*COVID-19 Management Plan attached.*)

School activities

Families will be allowed back on campus to participate in a greater range of activities, including after-hours performances, fund raisers and events. You can also come onto school grounds for drop-offs and pick up.

Checking-in with the *Check In CBR* app is no longer required.

Strict student cohorting is no longer required, however we will continue to manage school activities in COVID Smart ways.

Masks

Secondary students are no longer required to wear a face mask at school but can continue to do so if they choose to. School staff and teachers will continue to wear masks when moving around indoors on school sites, and when physical distancing of 1.5 metres cannot be maintained. Masks can be removed when teaching, when physical distancing can be maintained, when outdoors, or when eating and drinking.

Household contacts

People who live with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 can attend school for work or study, if they have met ACT Health's [risk mitigation requirements for household contacts](#). Anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms must not come to school. (*Risk mitigation requirements for household contacts attached.*)

COVID-19 vaccination

With high vaccination rates across the Canberra community, COVID-19 vaccination will no longer be mandated for any staff working in ACT public schools, after 13 May 2022. Vaccination against COVID-19 and the seasonal flu is strongly encouraged for all staff and eligible students.

Rapid antigen tests

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) will continue to be available at our school and will be provided to staff and students on an as-needed basis, or in response to increased cases reported to a school.

Air quality and ventilation

Good ventilation will continue to be one part of our suite of measures to minimise COVID-19 transmission in schools. Our indoor air quality plan is being reviewed and we will balance thermal comfort and ventilation during the colder months. Outdoor learning and natural ventilation will be used where appropriate depending on weather.

Staying COVID Smart

While these changes will bring back many of the school activities that students and families love, this does not mean the pandemic is over. Our school will continue with COVID Smart measures to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission onsite, including good hygiene practise, cleaning and staying home when unwell.

Some restrictions may be reintroduced in the winter months if there is a significant increase in COVID-19 cases across the Canberra community.

We expect COVID-19 will also continue to impact our school staff and limit the availability of teachers at times. Where appropriate, our school may use temporary remote learning periods as a way to manage a local staff shortage.

More information about how COVID-19 is being managed in ACT public schools can be found on the [ACT Education website](#).

Staff Planning days for all ACT Public Schools

The ACT Government is supporting all ACT public schools to hold two staff planning days during term 2. These days will provide public school teachers with some extra space to complete student reporting and lesson planning. Fadden Primary School will be taking these days in week 4 – Thursday 19th May 2022 and week 9 – Tuesday 21st June 2022. I have sent a letter to all parents, in a separate email, with more information around these days, as well as attached the same letter to the Weekly Wrap Up.

Term 2 Learning Overviews

This week I have attached both the relevant Australian Curriculum guide for parents and the Fadden **Term 2 learning overviews** for all classes. These are valuable tools for parents to engage in their child's learning and support that learning at home. Please contact your child's teacher if you require any further information. Kylie Dewar is our Team Leader for Preschool to Year 2 and Sarah Bass is our Team Leader for Year 3-6; both are happy to assist if you require anything more.

NAPLAN Timetable Years 3 and 5

Next week our year 3 and year 5 students will begin NAPLAN assessments (National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy). If your child is in year 3 or 5, please see the additional letter attached to the Weekly Wrap Up email (*NAPLAN timetable for parents attached*).

Fadden Parents & Citizen's

Our Fadden Parents & Citizen's are needing your help with fundraising activities during the federal polling here at Fadden Primary School on Saturday 21st May 2022. Please follow the link below to sign up to the Fadden Primary School P&C Election BBQ by Monday evening, thank you for your time and support.

[VolunteerSignup - Online volunteer signup sheets - Fadden P&C Election Day BBQ signup sheet](#)

This Tuesday the P&C will be holding a general meeting, online. I encourage all parents who would like to know more about what the P&C do or if they have a great idea to improve our school, to join in and see what is going on.



Microsoft Teams

Fadden P&C meeting for all parents

Tuesday 10th May – 6.00pm

Via Teams

<https://bit.ly/3MvV7nG>

Enrolments for Year 7

Year 6 students that live in the Priority Enrolment Area for Caroline Chisholm School (Gowrie, Chisholm, Gilmore, Macarthur and Fadden) are invited to explore their transition website. There will be a Middle Years Mash Up day in October. We will provide more information about this day when it becomes available.

Please see links below:

- Main website: <https://carolchisholmschool.wordpress.com/>
- Transition to high school specific information: <https://carolchisholmschool.wordpress.com/transition-event/>

Have a great weekend.

Jo Jefferson
Principal