



Fadden Primary School

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15th October 2021

Dear Fabulous Fadden Families,

As promised, I am writing with additional information about the return of students to our school campus. First, a reminder about the dates for our phased return of all students in the ACT.

Commencing 25 October (Week 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early childhood centres (ECEC) • Preschool and kindergarten • Years 1 and 2 • Year 6 • Years 9 and 10 • Out of school hours care (OSHC)
Commencing 1 November (Week 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 3, 4 and 5 • Years 7 and 8
<i>From weeks 1 to 4 of term, onsite supervision and care continues to be available for vulnerable children and young people whose parents are essential workers.</i>	

Drawing on national and local health advice we have developed a return to school plan 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.

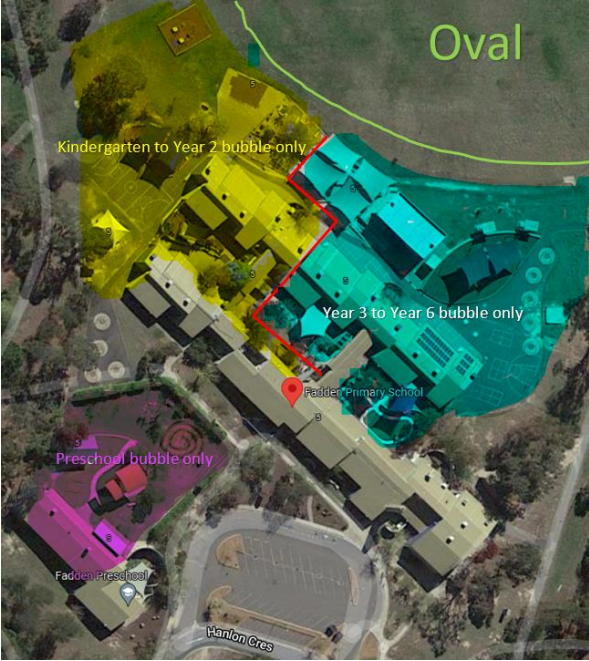
Below is an outline of [ACT Health Guidelines](#) that schools are required to implement to ensure effective COVID-19 measures are in place.

Use of Check in CBR app	All staff and visitors must check in using the 'Check in CBR' app. Parents and carers cannot enter school grounds except for an essential reason. Visitors must call to make an appointment, or in advance of attendance. All visitors must report to the front office.
Student illness	Staff and students who are unwell are not able to attend school. Students who present unwell will be required to go home.
Hygiene	Schools will maintain and promote appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene practices. Students will need to wash hands and use hand sanitisers throughout the day. Students will not be allowed to share food or drink.

Masks	<p>Staff, visitors and students* in years 7-12 must wear a face mask on campus. Students in years 3-6 are encouraged to wear a mask if they are comfortable doing so. Students in Preschool to year 2 are not required to wear a mask. Masks may not be suitable for students with a disability or medical condition and schools will make allowances for those students not to wear masks.</p> <p><i>* Students will be required to wear their personal masks. Masks will be available at school for those who require them. Disposable masks need to be changed every four hours.</i></p>
Physical Distancing	<p>Physical distancing between children and young people is not always possible, particularly in single classrooms and school environments. It is however important for limiting the transmission of COVID 19. To promote physical distancing we may adjust learning programs, breaktimes, our timetable as well as pick up and drop off arrangements. More specific information about what this means for your child is included below.</p>
Environmental cleaning	<p>Our school cleaning program includes regular cleaning of high touch services, frequently used objects, and play equipment.</p>
Ventilation	<p>All schools have been assessed to increase fresh air circulation and this may involve changes to ventilation, modified HVAC system settings and maximising the use of outdoor learning spaces.</p>
Managing suspected cases	<p>We are prepared to respond to a positive COVID-19 case on campus, should the need arise. ACT Health will provide direction to the school and community, which may result in a full or partial school closure. 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.</p>
Will schools have routine testing for COVID-19?	<p>Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should get tested immediately. ACT Health is not recommending routine COVID-19 testing of children, young people or staff using rapid antigen testing.</p>
Wellbeing supports	<p>Wellbeing and learning supports, such as face to face appointments with the school psychologist or access to a Learning Support Assistant, will recommence with the return to school.</p> <p>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.</p>

To further support the ACT Health Guidelines our school is making the following adjustments.

<p>Drop off and pick up</p>	<p><i>On Thursday 21st October 2021 we will be sending home comprehensive plans for each of our year levels in preparation for our return to school.</i></p> <p><i>However, the plans will include the following aspects and closely align with those that we used last year on our return from remote learning.</i></p> <p>Preschool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parents will be asked to still walk students into preschool, however there will be a clear process shared with parents on where to line up and the process of how staff will collect students from their parents. Parents will not be able to assist students to unpack bags or enter the veranda or preschool buildings.</i> <p>Kindergarten to Year 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If travelling to or from school by car, parents are asked to use pick up and set down only, no parking or getting out of your vehicle in the school carpark</i> • <i>If travelling to or from school by bike, walking or parking in the vicinity of the school - parents are asked not to enter classrooms or congregate around buildings. Students will need to line up at their classroom and not to use playgrounds to mix with other students</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Kindergarten classes will line up on the netball courts</i> ○ <i>Year 1 to Year 6 will line up at their outer class door</i>
<p>Hygiene routines</p>	<p><i>All classrooms will have a supply of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>hand sanitiser</i> • <i>disposable disinfectant wipes</i> • <i>access to a biohazard bin</i> • <i>access to a wet area with two sinks, hand soap and paper towels</i> <p><i>Process which will be taken:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Staff and students will wash their hands on entering learning spaces (beginning of day, after recess and after lunch).</i> • <i>Staff and students will wash or sanitize hands after blowing their nose or coughing into their hands, touching their nose/ mouth etc. Disinfect their desks or resources if they have been sneezed on, as soon as possible when required.</i> • <i>Any used tissues, masks or biohazard materials to be disposed of in 'biohazard bin' found in each block.</i> • <i>Staff will spray any shared equipment e.g. pencil pots etc with Glen 20 or equivalent at the end of each school day.</i> • <i>Student playgrounds will be disinfected 3 times per day, before school, before recess and before lunch.</i> <p><i>As we will not be able to use bubblers, we ask that all students bring to school a refillable water bottle labelled with their name. Our water stations do have taps to refill water bottles, it will just be the bubbler part that will be unavailable.</i></p>
<p>Teaching and learning</p>	<p><i>To assist with physical distancing as much as possible, we have organised our staff and the environment into three 'bubbles'.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Preschool bubble</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten to Year 2 bubble • Year 3 to Year 6 bubble <p><i>As a result, we have aligned our Library and Japanese specialist teachers to specific bubbles.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Gallie (library) will stay in the Kindergarten to Year 2 bubble • Mrs Beardmore (Japanese) will stay in the Year 3 to Year 6 bubble • Mr Matthew will continue to teach PE across the school but will stay within specific bubbles on specific days eg Monday and Tuesday – Kindergarten to Year 2 bubble. <p><i>Unfortunately, Band, the P&C Music Program and Choir will not be able to take place until further notice.</i></p>
<p>Break times</p>	<p><i>Due to the size of our school and our outstanding and generous grounds, we do not need to adjust breaktimes, as we are defining clear play areas for our bubbles and have removed any shared play spaces.</i></p> <p><i>Below is a map showing the play areas of all our bubbles.</i></p>  <p><i>The oval will be alternatively offered between our K-2 bubble and 3-6 bubble e.g. one at recess and the other at lunch.</i></p> <p><i>The library, however, will not be available to students during breaks or during class until further notice.</i></p> <p><i>Students will have access to a 'travelling library' instead. However, they will not be able to take books home at this stage.</i></p> <p><i>The red line on the map shows the placement of flag bunting which will be erected to show students where their play area stops.</i></p> <p><i>We will be sending out a social story for parents to read with their children on Thursday 21st October. This social story will reintroduce our students to our COVID safe school and the reasons why we need to separate the playgrounds, not use bubblers etc.</i></p>
<p>Before and After School Care</p>	<p><i>Families accessing OSHC will drop off and collect their child from OSHC at the sign in/out table, which is located outside the hall. They also have a QR code that families can use with their own device, reducing the need to touch the iPad etc.</i></p>

	<p><i>After School Care will continue to provide a program for our preschool students, in Preschool. Sign out from this space with happen outside of the building and preferably by using the QR code provided by OSHC staff.</i></p> <p><i>OSHC staff will continue to drop off and collect students from their classrooms, however, OSHC staff will not enter classrooms.</i></p>
School canteens	<p><i>The school canteen will begin once more on Thursday 4th October 2021.</i></p> <p><i>Orders will be available through Flexischools on Thursdays ONLY as usual.</i></p> <p><i>Lunches will then be delivered directly to classrooms via Fadden staff.</i></p>

We will continue to review and adjust these measures based on the most up to date advice from ACT Health.

Remember, all adults and children aged 12 years and above are eligible for vaccination. If your child is eligible but not yet vaccinated, we encourage you to book them in by calling the COVID-19 vaccination line on 5124 7700 daily between 7am-7pm. Bookings can also be made with some [GP clinics and pharmacies](#).

We understand that there has been considerable change and uncertainty for our students during the pandemic, and as we transition back to school. I'd remind you that you and your child can book an appointment with our Telehealth Support Service on 02 6205 1559 between 9.00am and 4.30pm weekdays. With the return to school, your child will also be able to organise face to face sessions with the school psychologist.

For more information about the return to schools, I'd recommend visiting [the Education Directorate's website](#).

You can keep up to date with the latest health information, advice and resources on the [ACT's COVID-19 website](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and understanding as we return to face-to-face schooling.

We look forward to seeing all our students back at school.

All the best,

Jo Jefferson
Principal