

Dear parent and carers,

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.

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. If this is the case, please email evidence from a health care professional to lanyonHSinfo@ed.act.edu.au</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 have adjusted 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 and access to Student Services staff, 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, your will continue to access learning activities through Google classroom.</p>

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

<p>Timetable change and Break times</p>	<p>In week 4 (25 October) Students both onsite and offsite will follow the remote learning timetable.</p> <p>From week 5 onwards (1 November) In order to minimise the mixing of year cohorts, the timetable has been changed so that there are three (3) lessons per day, each with a 25 or 30 minute break at some point in the middle for each session (see attached timetable).</p> <p>Year 7 and 8 students will have different break times to the year 9 &10 students. Year 7s and 8s will have designated playground areas to minimise the time they spend together.</p> <p>Playground areas will be different on different days. There will be signs around the school to help students know when they have breaks and where they are allowed access.</p>
<p>Drop off and pick up</p>	<p>Parents / carers are asked to not enter school grounds unless essential. The front office door will be locked, for any essential matters you will need to ring the doorbell and stand behind the line. A staff member will then come and speak with you. Students can be dropped off in the drop off zone out the front of the school.</p>
<p>Hygiene routines</p>	<p>Hand sanitiser will be located in every classroom. Students are encouraged to regularly wash their hands and practice good hygiene. Posters will be visible across the school to remind students of these practices.</p> <p>Cleaning plans are in place to ensure high touch points are regularly sanitised. Water stations will be in use and students should bring their own water bottle. Water bubblers will be turned off.</p>
<p>Teaching and learning</p>	<p>In order to limit the mingling of year cohorts, certain programs will not run in term 4. These include Enrichment, DanceFest, Rainbow Group or other groups run by the Youth Support Workers.</p> <p>School staff are still investigating ways in which the IMP Band can still meet, whilst keeping year cohorts separate. Parents/carers of students involved will be contacted directly with more information.</p> <p>Access to Student Services will be closely monitored in order to minimise the number of students accessing that space at any given time.</p>
<p>Before and after school</p>	<p>Students are asked to arrive to school as close as possible to the 8.55am bell. Students can access the following areas before school;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 go to Marketplace • Year 8 go to Inside gates. • Year 9/10 go to Basketball courts and oval. <p>After school, students need to leave the school grounds as soon as possible at the end of the day.</p>
<p>School canteens</p>	<p>Students will not be able to access the canteen area, except for when they are picking up food. There will be separate entrances and pick-up points for each year group.</p> <p>The school canteen will be open all days. It is encouraged that families utilise the online ordering system via My School Connect (instructions attached).</p>

	Limited over the counter service will be available. Students will have a designated line for queuing depending on their cohort. Muffins, drinks and sandwiches will be available during break 1. Hot food and drinks will be available during break 2. Drinks and Ice blocks will be available during break 3.
--	---

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.

My regards,

Barbara Monsma

Principal

Lanyon High School