



Parramatta High School

Important parent communication for return to school

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We are excited for all of our students to return onsite on Monday 25th October 2021. Online learning has been a challenging time for all and we extend our sincerest gratitude to the parent community for helping to support your child/ren during this time.

All Students will return to onsite learning from Monday 25th October 2021. At Parramatta High School, we have implemented COVID-safe measures to ensure the safety of staff and students whilst also adhering to guidelines introduced by the NSW Department of Education and NSW Health.

The purpose of this document is to provide you with information relating to the return to school.

Your sincerely,

Domonique Splatt
Principal

Important information:

For the safety of our students, we are asking you to **ensure your child arrives at 8:20am, not before**, and proceeds to their allocated gate. This will allow students to remain in their cohort and minimise any mingling in the playground. Students will be greeted by a member of the Executive Team and their Year Adviser during Week 4.

Parents will not be permitted onsite upon the return to school. All communication to the school will need to occur via email at parramatta-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or via telephone by contacting the number 02 9635 8644.

Return to school updates will be provided via our school website <https://parramatta-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/> and our school Facebook page. Year Advisers and other key staff members will continually update your child via their Year Group Google Classroom.

To provide maximum safety for our students and staff, we have developed rooming bubbles whereby students will be learning in the same classroom for most of the day without having to move throughout the school. This will also limit students mingling with their peers from different cohorts. The rooming bubbles are provided to you in this document.

The canteen will also operate upon our return to school; however, a roster has been developed to allow students from each cohort to access it throughout the week. The days when students are not rostered to use the canteen, we ask that these students bring their own food and drinks to school.

School Attendance

Students are expected to attend school from their designated return to school dates unless they are unwell or have even the mildest of COVID-19 symptoms. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:

- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free or
- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available. In circumstances where students or staff have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Curriculum

As per DoE advice, all schools will be providing a single in person mode of delivery from 25 October 2021 for students in Years 7-11. Classes will no longer be conducted in an online environment as we welcome students back on site and parents who choose to keep children at home will be directed to the generic DoE Learning from Home Hub of curriculum material.

Masks

Masks are mandatory for all high school staff and students whilst they are indoors and on school sites unless eating or exercising. Due to the current guidelines regarding sharing equipment, students will be unable to play games such as basketball and touch football during breaks. Students should bring their own masks; however, we will have a backup supply if needed.

Physical Distancing and Hygiene

All adults must keep 1.5 metres distance from each other, including teachers and support staff, and parents and carers waiting to collect children. Physical distancing between children in the same class is not required under the latest health guidelines. Mixing between year groups will be minimised and students will be supported to follow strict hygiene practices including:

- regularly washing hands
- not sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into their elbow, or else using a tissue which should be put in the bin straight away
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly. We strongly advise students to bring refillable water containers.

Vaccinations

All adults on site from 18 October must be fully vaccinated (2 doses), or have an approved medical exemption. Students aged 12 or above are now eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination. Parents and carers can book in a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine now. Vaccination appointments are available at more than 3,000 locations across NSW, including GPs and pharmacies. For students and families who have questions or concerns related to getting vaccinated, refer to NSW Health's Know the facts COVID-19 vaccination fact sheet.

School Cleaning and Hygiene Supplies

Schools will continue to receive additional cleaning in line with advice from NSW Health. Schools have received extra supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment and can order more as needed. As our practice earlier in the year and in 2020, each classroom teacher will have hand sanitiser available for use each lesson and classroom tables will be cleaned with approved disinfectant at the conclusion of each lesson.

Ventilation

To enhance ventilation in indoor spaces, classroom windows and doors will be open. This follows a department audit of ventilation in all schools. The use of reverse cycle air conditioners without windows and doors open, does not meet requirements.

Assessments

After students settle in to school routines upon return, Parramatta High School has several assessments that need to be conducted. These include, though are not limited to:

- NAPLAN 2022 Readiness test (mandatory as all schools doing the online assessment in 2022)
- DoE Check in Assessments (mandatory literacy and numeracy tests)

Visitors

Only essential visitors are allowed on school sites at this time. When dropping off or picking up your child, parents and carers need to stay outside school grounds, you will need to wear a mask and physically distance.

Responding to COVID-19 Cases

Where there is a case of COVID-19 in the school community, the department has established systems and protocols with NSW Health to manage and respond accordingly to keep our staff and students safe. These protocols include communication with parents or carers if their child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 while at school or if the school becomes closed.

Bell times

To ensure the safety of staff and students, changes have been made to the bell times. This allows for limited movement throughout the school and follows a staggered approach during break times to separate cohorts. **Students in Years 9-11 will be permitted to leave early on Wednesday afternoon.**

Bell times for Years 7, 8, 12

Mon, Thu and Fri

Period	Bell Time
RC	8:25-8:45
1	8:45-9:45
Recess	9:45-10:15
2	10:15-11:15
3	11:15-12:15
Lunch	12:15-12:45
4*	12:45-1:45
5	1:45-2:45

Tue

Period	Bell Time
RC	8:25-8:45
1	8:45-9:45
Recess	9:45-10:15
2	10:15-11:15
3	11:15-12:15
Lunch*	12:15-12:45
4	12:45-1:45
5	1:45-2:45

Wed

Period	Bell Time
RC/Ass	8:25-8:55
1	8:55-10:00
Recess	10:00-10:30
2	10:30-11:35
3	11:35-12:40
L	12:40-1:10
4	1:10- 2:15

*Year 12 to finish early on Tuesday and Friday

Bell times for Years 9,10,11

Mon, Thu and Fri

Period	Bell Time
RC	8:25-8:45
1	8:45-9:45
2	9:45-10:45
Recess	10:45-11:15
3	11:15-12:15
4*	12:15-1:15
Lunch	1:15-1:45
5	1:45-2:45

Tue

Period	Bell Time
RC	8:25-8:45
1	8:45-9:45
2	9:45-10:45
Recess	10:45-11:15
3	11:15-12:15
Lunch*	12:15-12:45
4	12:45-1:45
5	1:45-2:45

Wed

Period	Bell Time
RC/Ass	8:25-8:55
1	8:55-10:00
2	10:00- 11:05
Recess	11:05-11:35
3	11:35-12:40
4	12:40-1:45
(Home)	1.45

Rooming bubbles for each year group

Year group	Classrooms	Entry/Exit	Before School area	P/G Areas	
				<i>Week A</i>	<i>Week B</i>
7	DM1, DM2, 41, 42, 31, 32,33,46	Boys Toilet Gate	Canteen	Parkside	Oval
8	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18	Front Office Gate	Middle/Lower Quad	Oval	Parkside
9	27,28, 47, 48, 36, 37, 38	Basketball Court Gate	Science Quad	Oval	Parkside
10	1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 30	IA Gate	IA Quad	Parkside	Oval
11	9,19, 20, LIB_F, LIB_N, LIB_M, 45 LC	Parkside Gate	Parkside	IA Quad	IA Quad
12	22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 43, 44	Front Gate (Parking for Principal/DPs)	Top Quad	IA Quad	IA Quad

Spare rooms: 34,35, 39

Canteen

Week 4-5

MonR	MonL	TueR	TueL	WedR	WedL	ThuR	ThuL	FriR	FriL
7,10	8,11	9,12	7,10	8,11	9,12	7,10	8,11	9,12	8,10

Week 6 onwards

MonR	MonL	TueR	TueL	WedR	WedL	ThuR	ThuL	FriR	FriL
7,9	8,11	7,9	8,10	7,9	8,10	7,9	10,11	7,11	8,10