



Russell Island State School

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23 January 2022

Dear Families,

I hope that you are all safe and well and have a wonderful holiday with your children.

I wish to advise you that Mrs Barnett had a knee injury from the end of last year that is taking some extra time to heal. I will be the Acting Principal in her absence to ensure that our school gets off to the smoothest start possible in these unprecedented times.

From Monday 24th January – Friday 4th February our school will be open for supervision of vulnerable children and children in essential working families. All students will meet in the top covered area as per our normal routine, and they will be allocated to a group where a Teacher and Teacher Aide will provide supervision for the day. Usual school uniform and behaviour expectations will be in place for all students attending.

Please be aware that we will be following the CHO advice around unwell people and the need for them to stay at home. If your child arrives at school unwell or becomes unwell during the day, we will call you to collect them. This is a measure that we are putting in place to try and keep everyone safe. Please have 1 or 2 back up contacts that we can contact and will be available to collect your child if you are unable to.

Please follow the latest testing, isolation and quarantine requirements for [confirmed cases and close contacts](#) as outlined by Queensland Health.

New Enrolments

If you know of anyone who wants to enrol their child, please let them know to call the office for further information 3400 9333. I will be conducting new enrolment interviews via the phone on Tuesday 25th, Thursday 27th and Friday 28th January this week.

Book Packs

Book packs can be collected from the Tuckshop Monday 24th, Tuesday 27th and Thursday 28th between session 1 8:30 and 10:30 and then again between 1:00 and 2:00pm.

Uniform Shop

P&C will be opening the uniform shop on Monday 24th 10:30am – 12:00pm and Thursday 27th 10:30am – 12:00pm. Thank you for supporting our P&C. Please speak with Mick Marriott if you are interested in joining our P&C. We would love to see some new members.

KindyLinQ

KindyLinQ will be starting back the week beginning 21st February 2022.



Some frequently asked questions have been answered on the Qed site <https://qed.qld.gov.au/covid19/frequently-asked-questions> and I have included a some here for you.

Will vulnerable students and students of essential workers be able to attend school?

Yes. Students experiencing vulnerability and those whose parents are essential workers will be able to attend school and will be provided supervision on school sites.

What is the definition of an essential worker?

An essential worker is someone who provides essential services and who is unable to work from home. This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses and other front-line medical staff, retail workers, haulage drivers and police officers.

Will students have to wear face masks at school?

Children in Primary schools do not need to wear masks. There are a number of [exceptions](#) to wearing face masks, including for children under 12 (unless they are in Year 7) and people with particular medical conditions or disabilities.

Further information on masks can be found on the [Queensland Health website](#).

Do students have to be vaccinated to attend school?

No. Students of all ages are able to attend school regardless of their vaccination status.

Will parents be able to enter school sites during these 2 weeks?

Yes. Whilst there are no limitations on parent access to schools from 24 January to 7 February, only parents can access school sites based on necessity. Examples include dropping off and collecting children, picking up learning resources, accessing the uniform shop, enrolment activities and case management meetings.

What if there is insufficient staff to supervise students?

At any time, on the advice of Queensland Health or if the impact of COVID-19 affects workforce capacity, a school may need to combine classes, offer remote learning or close temporarily. Principals will communicate regularly with their school community regarding their school's individual circumstances.

What measures are you taking to keep kids safe once they're at school?

All staff and volunteers on site will be vaccinated and face masks must be worn indoors everywhere in Queensland, including in schools, childcare and other education facilities, unless an [exception](#) applies. COVID-19 cleaning protocols are also in place.

What if my child is unwell?

Any child who is showing signs of illness or feeling unwell, must stay at home.

If they are experiencing any [COVID-19 symptoms](#), no matter how mild, call your doctor or 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) and [get tested](#). Read more about [COVID-19 and your child's health](#).

If a child is showing signs of illness at school, the school will contact the parent or carer to collect the child.

Please stay safe and we look forward to having everyone return to school on 7th February 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Leanne McMahon
Acting Principal