



21st January 2022

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The start of the 2022 school year has been adjusted to help minimise the peak of COVID-19 cases in South Australia. There will be a staged return to school and preschool over the first two weeks of term that balances every child's learning entitlement with safety and risk management concerns. Face-to-face learning has been prioritised for our youngest learners and for specific year levels that are transitioning. Remote learning will be provided for all other year levels.

The dates for the start of Term 1 are:

Monday 31 January – preparation day for staff

Tuesday 1 February – preparation day for staff

Wednesday 2 February – school is back

- Face to face learning for: Reception and year 1
- Remote learning for: years 2 to 6
- Monday 14 February (week 3) – planned return of face-to-face learning for all year levels

Preparation days (31 January and 1 February):

These days will be used by our staff to plan for remote and face-to-face learning and provide materials (devices, hardcopy packs) to students who will be learning remotely. This time will also be used to identify students/families who may need support to access ICT equipment or internet connectivity so their child can participate in remote learning.

For these days we ask **that families make arrangements for the care of their child/ren as you would for other student free days. OSHC will only be open before school and after school.** If parents are required to work and do not have appropriate supervision for your child/ren, you can choose to send them to school to be supervised on these days. However, no formal learning program will be provided on these days.

Face-to-face learning for Reception and Year 1 students- starting Wednesday 2nd January:

Teachers will provide a face to face learning program for Reception and Year 1 students commencing Wednesday 2nd February. If you choose to keep your child at home, or if they are required to isolate, a school based remote learning program will not be offered. However work will be available via the Departments '[Our Learning SA website](#)'.

We appreciate that the start of school is both exciting and daunting for our youngest students and therefore we have made an allowance **for one parent of a Reception child** to be on school grounds at the start and end of school days. **No parents are permitted into corridors, or classrooms during this period.** Please wait outside in the courtyards adjacent to the classrooms and ensure you are wearing your mask and have checked in using the QR code onsite.

The Department for Education is developing online learning for reception to year 10 students that your child can access online. More detail will be provided before the school term commences.

Remote learning provided for year 2 to 6 students starting on Wednesday 2 February:

Your child's teacher will communicate with you in the coming week via email/your class's communication platform (e.g. Dojo, Seesaw etc.) to talk about your child's online learning programme. The Department for Education is also developing remote learning resources for years 2 through 6 students that can be accessed online.



If you are required to attend your workplace and do not have any other appropriate supervision for your children, they can come to school. There will be no face-to-face teaching, however students will be supervised as they complete their remote learning program (this maybe by another staff member). We ask that parents of children in years 2 to 6 drop off and pick up their child/ren from outside the classes/buildings and move off quickly. Please do not use the school's playgrounds after school at this time and move off promptly. Also please note that the school crossing will only be monitored by staff initially as we await training from our students from SAPOL.

Minimising the spread of COVID-19

To ensure that our students and staff are as safe as possible at school, we will be implementing the following measures as advised by the Department for Education and SA Health:

- **Please keep your child home if they are unwell, even mildly.**
- Masks are required for:
 - All adults/school staff when indoors (except if it is impeding our staff's ability to communicate while teaching)
 - All parents coming on site
- *Masks are strongly recommended* for children in years 3 to 6 when indoors.
- Natural ventilation will be maximised by leaving doors/windows open, continued use of air conditioning (set to fresh air intake where available) and fans where possible
- Outdoor learning where appropriate
- Physical distancing where possible
- Minimise student intermingling indoors, for example across class groups
- Limit non-essential visitors on site
- An extra daily site clean (funded by the department)
- Temporary postponement of the following activities (until week 4 of term):
 - camps, excursions and incursions
 - interschool sport trials and competitions
 - large gatherings such as assemblies, events and concerts.

In the coming week, further information will be provided regarding community access and learning day structures. We are aware that the limitations listed above will mean that our ***early Term 1 events and meetings will be postponed and rescheduled where possible.*** This includes our Acquaintance Night, as well as the AGM scheduled for week 2 this term. We will advise of new dates as soon as we can.

To maximise safety for all, we ask that parents quickly drop off their child outside in the courtyard and then promptly move off and not congregate in groups. Masks will need to be worn when entering school grounds and the front office. Please do not enter classrooms, corridors or learning spaces and please do not use the school's playground after school in the interim.

Before and after school hours care (OSHC) will continue as normal in the gym.

We appreciate you might have some questions about these changes. We'll do our best to start planning a smooth start to the 2022 school. More details will be provided as we get closer to the start of term.



Assistance in helping us with our planning for the first few weeks

Microsoft Forms:

To support us with our planning we ask that you click on the link or use the QR code below to complete the [Microsoft Form](#) to indicate

1. If you wish to send your Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and/or 6 child/ren to school to be supervised for the online learning program
2. Your child's access to a suitable device to connect with the departments learning resources.



We look forward to seeing your child face-to-face or online to start the school year.

David Cowles
Principal
Mawson Lakes School

