

Narrandera High School

Principal: Mrs M. Milne (BA, Grad Dip Ed, Grad Cert Ed Leadership)

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Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As the impact of COVID-19 continues to evolve, maintaining the health and wellbeing of our students, staff and school community is of utmost importance.

As you would be aware, Term 2 has commenced with two pupil-free days on Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 April. During this time teachers will participate in professional learning and planning for the weeks ahead.

For the first two weeks of Term 2 until Friday 8 May, schools will remain operational for students who need to attend (Phase 0). This includes children of essential workers and other vulnerable students. Wherever possible, parents are encouraged to continue to implement learning from home. Students will continue to be provided with online work by their teachers, primarily through Google Classroom or hard copy home learning booklets. It is important for students to resume their learning on Wednesday 29 April and also to check their emails and Google Classroom for instructions and information from their teachers.

The Department of Education has announced a staggered return of students to school from May 11 (Week 3).

The school arrangements for Term 2 are intended to enable sufficient physical distancing to prevent the spread of COVID 19 and to ensure the protection of all staff and students. Additional hygiene measures will also be in place and the number of students in classrooms will be significantly reduced.

From Week 3, Monday 11 May, Narrandera High School will begin a phased return to school. Phase 1 will see students in Years 11 and 12 return to school and their normal classes 4 days a week. Students in Years 7-10 will attend school one day a week and continue to work 4 days a week at home (either using the online learning platform or the hard copy booklets). All students will engage in meaningful, face to face learning (not supervision) at school on the following days:

Monday: Years 8, 11 and 12 Tuesday: Years 7, 11 and 12 Wednesday: No scheduled classes (supervision only provided for those students who must attend) Thursday: Years 9, 11 and 12 Friday: Years 10, 11 and 12 Whilst it is important to have our Stage 6 students back at school due to their HSC studies, it is equally as important that all of our students are able to access a face to face classroom experience, not only for their learning but for their wellbeing. This is why Narrandera High School and the Department of Education have decided to follow this mode of operation. Your support following this model and your children attending on the designated days only will help us to be able to deliver quality face to face explicit teaching rather than just supervision of online work. If you would like to discuss your children attending on different days, please feel free to contact me directly. We are here to support our students and families and understand that flexibility will be required in some circumstances.

School buses will continue to operate at this time and providers are required to follow good hygiene practices and to monitor the advice from NSW Health.

Students who have access to a computer, are requested to bring this device to school with them on their designated day/s. This includes students who have already loaned a device from school. Students who do not have access to a device will be able to borrow one from the library. For hygiene reasons, it is vitally important that students who have access are able to bring their own computer to school. Computers borrowed from school will be checked in and out each day and cleaned appropriately after use.

It is anticipated that Phase 2 of our return to school model will be implemented around the middle of this term. This will involve all students (including Years 7-10) attending school at least two days per week. More information on this phase of operation will be provided closer to the time.

All students are expected to wear full winter uniform on the days they are at school. The school canteen will be open and following suitable social distancing and hygiene recommendations.

Thank you all for your continuing support as we all work together to ensure the best possible learning and wellbeing outcomes for our students as well as keeping staff, students and the community as safe as possible. We will continue to check in on families through our wellbeing phone calls home at least once per week.

Kind Regards, Marni Milne Principal