

Parent Update on Term 2 at Carramar PS.



Dear parents/ caregivers and amazing students,

I hope that you are well and managing to stay safe, isolate and social distance. I would like to update you on what is planned for Term 2. You may notice that some of this information was sent out via Class Dojo and was posted on our Facebook page. I am now adding some specific details which includes the gradual return to face to face teaching: that is students are able to attend to school for initially, one day a week and this will increase to a second day and it is hoped by the end of the term, students will be back at school five days a week. As these days increase you will be notified. This gradual return to school is being referred to as "phases".

I would like to point out that during all phases, school will be open and operational for students that need to attend but where practical, parents/caregivers are encouraged to keep their children at home if it is not their allocated face to face teaching day.

Phase 0: This includes the two staff development days that were on Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 April 2020. It also includes weeks 1 and 2 of Term 2. In these first two weeks there will be a continuation of remote learning 5 days a week, as it was in Term 1. The students will be learning remotely from home. Students will work on their workbooklets that were given to them at the end of Term 1. If you have not collected a workbooklet for Term 2 weeks 1 and 2, please do so as soon as possible. Not collecting a workbooklet reflects that a student is not learning and a student may be marked as absent. Absent reflects that a student is not engaging in learning and this is a concern and will be followed up by the school and the Home School Liaison Officer. Should your child be sick or unwell and therefore unable to complete work on a given day, please advise the teacher on the day via Class Dojo or a phone call to the office, your child can then be marked as "sick".

PHASE 1: From 11 May: Week 3 of Term 2, each grade will be allocated a day that they can attend school for face to face teaching. Students will continue to be provided with their workbooklets and will need to bring the booklet to school on their face to face day/s. This is the work that every student will be completing regardless of being at school for their day or whether they are working remotely from home.

As per the table below, our school will be using grade groups to determine who comes back to school.

Mondays= Yr 1/2	Tuesdays= Kinder	Wednesdays= Yr3/4	Thursdays= Yr5/6	Fridays= NA
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On these days please note that teachers will not be connecting with students via Class Dojo as they normally would, their focus will be the students at school on the allocated day of face to face teaching.

There are many other ways to potentially determine how students are selected to come back for face to face teaching but there some Department of Education requirements that make some options better than others. **No model is perfect and I ask for your support with the process.**

The Department of Education requires schools to:

1. Continue to roster staff to work remotely from home for some days and
2. Keep student numbers in each class/group to approximately 10 in the initial phases.

With the need to keep student numbers to the approximate number of 10, it is likely that 'some' students will spend part of their face to face day in a different classroom with a different teacher, however, we will operate with a flexible timetable to 'ensure' that the classroom teacher has the opportunity to connect with every student during their face to face day.

Children of essential workers who are required to attend school outside of their allocated day, will also be grouped according to the Department's figure of approximately 10 students in a learning group. They will also be supervised by a teacher that may not be their normal teacher and they also may be learning in a different learning space.

It is important to understand that NO student will be disadvantaged in their learning as all students are working on the same grade workbooklet.

PHASE 2: Schools will be advised by the Department of Education when the second day of face to face teaching is going to start. You will then be advised of the second day for each grade. The same conditions are expected to apply for phase 2, if there are any changes you will be advised.

PHASE 3 and beyond: As per Phase 2, you will be advised of the extra day/s and it is anticipated that by this phase, that the student group numbers of 10 will be lifted and classes will be able to operate closer to the normal class numbers.

PARENT HELP REQUIRED DURING TERM 2

During Term 2 parents/caregivers will be asked to support the school by **practicing social distancing**.

You can do this (where practical and possible) by:

- drop off and pick up students from the school gates.
- while doing the drop off or pick up, ensure you social distance outside the school with each other. Do not use this time to mingle, chat and catch up with each other. "Drop or collect and go".
- if you have an inquiry, do so by making a phone call.

We also ask for your support and ask you to ensure that:

- your child is working on their workbooklet from home.
- you are connected and engaging in Class Dojo regularly.
- your child understands how to social distance while at school.
- your child understands the need to follow the correct hygiene practices.
- you collect the workbooklet when you are informed it is available.
- you send your child to school with their workbooklet, recess, lunch and a drink. The canteen is likely to remain closed for most of Term 2. You will be notified as soon as it re-opens.
- buy uniform only selected days: Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30am-2:30pm

Our school, like all NSW schools is a safe, clean and secure place for students and staff. Our school continues to have adequate provisions of soap and hygiene supplies, such as hand sanitiser. It is also receiving extra cleaning during this period.

I appreciate your patience and understanding with amount of information there is to digest and for the fact that it continues to be updated. If I can be of help to support you in any way please call me. Finally, I would like to sincerely thank all parents/caregivers for the amazing effort shown with remote learning and especially for the support of our school processes in these very different times. Stay safe and take care.

Regards

Anthony Mazzitelli

Principal Carramar PS