



Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers of Broadbeach State School students,

I am hopeful that COVID-19 has had only a minor impact on your family. To those for whom the impact has been significant I send best wishes for a speedy return to health and a balance in your lives.

Clearly, there are some challenges to our start to the school year. Again, with your support, our team will develop and execute strategies to maximise safety and productivity within the confines of the circumstances.

I have summarised the following to inform and to assist you in being prepared for the next few weeks.

- The school **holiday has been extended for students until Monday 7 February**.
- Staff members will be expected to work either on site or from home.
- In accordance with the directive regarding mass gatherings, only a very limited number of staff members will be on site until Monday 7 February.
- As expected, a significant number of our team have been affected by the virus and we are monitoring them as they recover. We aim to replace staff who are ill with personnel familiar with our school, however, I recognise that shortages throughout the Gold Coast may present a challenge in the next month.
- Ten new teachers will be joining our team this year. They are keen and will be well-supported by our existing team.
- **All staff members must be fully vaccinated** to work.
- Children of essential workers will be supervised on site from Monday 24 January by a range of team members.
- **Students do not have to be vaccinated to attend school.**
- Students may wear a mask if you want this to occur.
- Surfside Buslines have advise they will operate their normal school routes for students of essential workers from Monday 24 January.
- To help us in our strategy to minimise the number of people on the school site, **only enter the school grounds if necessary**.
- Parents **do not** have to be vaccinated to enter the school grounds.
- Please note that **masks** (exemptions may apply) **and social distancing** will be required when on the school site.
- There will be **no parent access to classrooms** until further notice.
- Whilst no additional ventilation or air purifying strategies will be employed, ventilation practices including open doors and windows and the use of fans will be in place in teaching spaces.
- An SMS will be sent early on **Monday 7 February** advising the class teacher for your child/ren - note the **revised date** due to the delayed start to the school year.
- Heads of Subschool will be collaborating with teachers to adjust the timing of curriculum delivery and assessment thereof in light of the loss of time caused by the delayed start.
- Details about the [Uniform Shop operation](#) can be found on the school website.

- **Tuckshop** will operate regular hours beginning **Monday 7 February only**.
- Kiss'n'Go facilities on Mary Avenue and Old Burleigh Road will be supervised before and after school to assist with delivery and collection.
- **Years 1-6 students** requiring supervision (Monday 24 January – Friday 4 February) are to assemble in The Peace Garden in the morning (or covered area near the Prep playground if it is raining). For collection on foot at 3:00 pm, please inform your child where you will meet after school. The school oval is a preferred location as it avoids congestion.
- **Prep students** requiring supervision (Monday 24 January – Friday 4 February) are to be signed in and out of The James Centre (hall adjacent to Old Burleigh Road) between 8:30 and 8:45 am and 3:00 and 3:15 pm.
- Before and after school care will be available by arrangement with the PCYC – please contact the service directly for more information and bookings.
- To assist in answering more questions related to schools and COVID-19, please revisit the Department of Education [FAQs](#)
- To minimise the spread of illness, students and parents **must** not enter the grounds if unwell. Any student presenting as unwell throughout a school day will be provided appropriate first aid. Where the condition is of a respiratory nature, you will be contacted with the expectation you will collect your child immediately. To protect our team members and other students, your child may be offered a mask to wear and/or the opportunity to sit outside in the fresh air.

If you are an essential worker and have not already completed [Student Attendance Survey](#) to advise which days your children will be attending from Monday 24 January onwards, please complete it now. This data is vital for our staff deployment.

Based on our team's previously demonstrated abilities and attitudes, I am confident that we will successfully navigate this tricky period of time. Our aim is to be calm in our approach and to focus on teaching and learning within whatever the parameters may be in place. Your assistance in reassuring your children is appreciated.

I am grateful for your continued adherence to the health guidelines and the school protocols and look forward to less-restrictive times ahead.

All [COVID-19 information and updates](#) are stored on our website for easy access.

Please continue to connect with, and support one another.

Kind regards



Bruce Langes
Principal