



Thursday, January 21, 2021

Dear parents and carers of Broadbeach State School Students

Welcome families to the 2021 school year. For our new families, I extend a special welcome and have confidence that you will settle quickly into our school community.

Our team is once again committed to excelling in our core business of teaching and learning. Our **narrow focus on targeting teaching to the needs of the students** will ensure best chance of success for every student. Writing and inclusion will be the two elements of our Explicit Improvement Agenda for 2021, building on the progress in these domains during 2020.

In the last two months parts of our **school have undergone significant transformation**. I recognise the considerable work required in planning and overseeing these projects, applaud all those responsible and look forward to harnessing the associated advantages. The list of improvements to our learning environment include:

- completion of the Stage 1 building project (includes 18 new classrooms),
- the installation of additional bike storage,
- the removal of the 10 temporary classrooms from the eastern side of the oval,
- the restoration of the oval surface,
- the upgrade of the ball court (anticipated completion date Friday 29 January)
- completion of the junior play area, and
- the renovation of the James Centre.

Work will commence on a second Kiss'n'Go zone on Mary Street on 1 February.

Based on our knowledge of our students, **47 carefully balanced classes** have been compiled to start the school year. Most of our teachers have changed classrooms and some have changed year level. Mrs Teegan Keating and Miss Rosie Burness will be rejoining us along with **some new faces**, Miss Amy Keith (Normanton), Mrs Fotina Newton (Southport), Mrs Danielle Roth (Malanda), Mrs Deb Ashman, Mrs Kim Harrop and Mrs Belinda O'Sullivan.

A text message will be sent to families by 7:00am Wednesday 27 January, identifying your **child's roll class and teacher/s** along with a hyperlink to a map of classroom locations. Information Officers will be located at each gate to assist families on arrival. I expect our student leaders will also be showing their leadership skills by acting as guides for those in need. New families and families of Prep students will receive an SMS prior to Wednesday with specific details.

After enduring significant access restrictions in 2020 due to COVID-19, many of you will have scanned ahead to this paragraph to learn whether **parents will be permitted on site in 2021**. The answer is **YES**, however, in accordance with the conditions within the Queensland Education COVID-19 Industry Plan 2021 – State Schools. These include:

- All family members and visitors, **other than you** (parent and carers), must sign in before entering the grounds. (You, **do not need to sign in**, as your contact details, which may be required for contact tracing, are already stored in our school database).
- Physical distancing of 1.5m.
- Please **carry a mask at all times**.
- Wearing a face mask is required if a distance of 1.5m cannot be maintained e.g. in a classroom where there are more than 10 adults. The guidelines state that children and teachers do not have to wear masks.
- Staying home if unwell.

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CRICOS Provider Number 00608A

Limiting time on site for adults other than staff will be a key part of our strategy to minimise risk. Therefore I ask for your cooperation by observing the following:

- Only enter the grounds if necessary.
- Have only **one parent or carer deliver children** (I understand that on the first day you may wish to have more but ask that thereafter, you observe this strategy).
- Avoid arriving on site prior to **8:30am** for delivery and **2:50pm** for collection.
- **Leaving as soon as practical** after delivering or collecting your child.
- Use public facilities like the park opposite the school to congregate (with physical distancing) to catch up with other families.
- Arrange delivery and collection points outside the school for responsible students.
- Use the [Kiss'n'Go facility](#) on Old Burleigh road.
- Use electronic means of communication with your child's teacher.

Please note that students and younger siblings are not permitted to play on the facilities either before or after school.

I value connecting families to our school. However, my priority is maintaining a safe environment by minimising risks so that our transition back to the freedoms we previously enjoyed can be a reality sooner rather than later. Your respect for these conditions is expected and appreciated, as policing them will distract staff members from their regular duties.

Standard health and hygiene measures and expectations that will continue, include, but are not limited to:

- Staff and students staying home, or being sent home if sick.
- Regular handwashing and hand sanitising, particularly before and after eating, and after going to the toilet.
- Increased cleaning of school classrooms, particularly high-frequency touch points such as water fountains and bubblers.
- Regular cleaning of playground equipment and play materials.
- Physical distancing for adults.

The **first day** of a school year is exciting and challenging. Please prepare yourself and your children with a **positive mindset** and exercise a **calm approach** to the occasion, so that we can maintain our track record of again achieving a settled start.

Stay safe and keep smiling.



Bruce Langes
Principal

Related links:

[Queensland Education COVID-19 Industry Plan 2021 – state schools](#)

[Frequently asked questions for parents](#)

[Face Masks](#)

[Kiss'n'Go facility](#)

[Broadbeach State School website](#)

Please note as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, plans are subject to change.

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