

Parent/carer high school email updated health guidelines

Dear parents and carers,

Today the ACT Government has released updated COVID-19 guidelines for ACT schools to bring them into line with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions across the broader ACT community. These changes will take place in two stages – from 29 October and 29 November.

These changes will allow us to bring back more of the activities that make school-life so rewarding and engaging, in a COVID-safe way.

Importantly these updates will not change the key measures we have introduced for term 4 including student cohorting and hygiene, ventilation, and cleaning, use of the Check In Canberra app for all adults and mandatory mask wearing for staff, and for students in years 7 to 12.

Our school's COVID-19 Safety Assurance Plan will remain in place until the end of term 4.

From 29 October,

- Essential excursions involving individual classes and year groups will be allowed where they form a core component of the curriculum.
- Canteen counter service can be reintroduced along with counter service for P&C uniform shops where a COVID safety business checklist is in place along with physical distancing measures.
- Amaroo Canteen will resume normal service from Monday 1 November and Uniform Shop will be open Tuesday afternoon and Friday morning by appointment only. Email amaroopc.president@gmail.com for a timeslot.
- Individual music lessons conducted by music tutors can resume. Choir, band and orchestra lessons and practice can also take place indoors with appropriate physical distancing. Indoor and contact sports can resume. Students from individual classes and cohort groups can participate in indoor dance classes.
- School performances can go ahead outside of school hours in forward facing, fixed and tiered seating venues with capacity limits.
- Onsite transition visits can occur with our year 10 students transitioning to college with arrangements in place to minimise mixing between students from different schools during school visits, including staggered visit times.
- Students and staff will no longer be required to wear masks outdoors.
- P&C-run contactless fundraisers can go ahead on school sites with COVID safety measures in place and a minimum number of volunteers.
- Community hiring of school facilities can resume after hours, including the hiring of gymnasiums for sports such as basketball. However, in order to allow for COVID safe planning and adequate cleaning staff, hiring will not commence until 8 November.

From 29 November

- Parents and visitors are allowed on campus for scheduled extra-curricular activities with COVID safety measures in place including check in, physical distancing and the wearing of face masks indoors.
- Our year 10 formal and graduation, performances, and assemblies can take place from the end of November in line with the [ACT Chief Health Officer's End of Year Events Guidelines](#).

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The updated guidelines are informed by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee advice for minimising COVID-19 transmission in schools and the Chief Health Officer's [Health Guidelines for Schools and Early Childhood Education Services \(including out of school hours care\)](#).

More information about the measures being taken to stay COVID-Safe in schools upon the return to on campus learning can be found on our COVID-19 school arrangements [web page](#).

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gai".

Gai Beecher

Executive Principal

Amaroo School