



COVID-19 UPDATE

Return to School - Term 1, 2022

Please find summarised below important information regarding our health settings ahead of the start of term. Being together in the classroom is the most effective way for our students to learn and we will be undertaking careful planning to keep our students, staff and community safe and healthy.



Watch for Symptoms

- If your child is unwell, even with mild symptoms you must keep them home and get them tested. If they display any symptoms they should take a PCR test (nose and throat swab) or rapid antigen test (RAT).
- If symptoms continue your child should stay home and take another RAT or PCR test in 24 hours. If that test is also negative, your child may return to school if another diagnosis is confirmed such as hayfever.



Vaccination

- All staff on school sites must be fully vaccinated.
- We strongly encourage all students and their families to get vaccinated.
- Children aged 5 to 11 can now get vaccinated. Parents are encouraged to book their child in for a vaccination at the first available opportunity.
- Once eligible, all adults are encouraged to get booster shots.



Testing

Before the start of term 1

- All staff and students are asked to take a rapid antigen test and get a negative result before attending school at the start of term 1.
- Rapid antigen tests will be provided to all staff and students through the school and you will be informed on how these kits can be collected.

At the start of term 1

- For the first 4 weeks, students and staff should take a rapid antigen test twice a week, on Mondays and Wednesdays, in the morning before attending school. Tests for boarders will be conducted in their boarding houses.
- Students who are household close contacts must isolate at home for 7 days.



COVID-19 Positive Cases

- If your child has no symptoms and there is a positive case in their class, year or other grouping, they can continue to attend school in line with NSW Health advice and students who get a positive rapid antigen test result must register it on service.nsw.gov.au or the Service NSW app as soon as possible.
- Staff and students who receive a positive rapid antigen or PCR test result must tell the school as soon as possible, and follow NSW Health advice. Please report positive tests for Senior School to reception@kws.nsw.edu.au and for Junior School to junioroffice@kws.nsw.edu.au.
- The School will regularly communicate to parents about the presence and impact of COVID-19. Parents should expect to be provided with details of any impacted year groups or cohorts.



Ventilation

- Fresh air is the most effective form of ventilation to minimise the risk of transmission.
- All learning spaces have been checked to ensure appropriate levels of ventilation and measures are being taken to improve areas where this is required.
- Using outdoor spaces will continue to be encouraged.



Masks

- All Junior and Senior school staff will be required to wear masks indoors.
- No vented masks or cloth masks should be worn. Surgical masks are strongly recommended to be worn.
- Senior school students are required to wear masks indoors.
- Junior School students are strongly recommended to wear appropriately sized masks indoors.



Activities

- COVID-19 will be considered in all risk assessments. Guidance has been provided by NSW Health on applying appropriate safeguards across a range of activities.
- Parents will be made aware of the risk of exposure and will need to give their permission for participation in extra-curricular, out of school hours or off-site activities



Student Cohorting

- The School will continue to use cohort arrangements including separate playground zones and limiting canteen access to lunch orders only (no recess) delivered to cohort zones.
- Parents/carers must remain in their card for drop offs and pick ups.



Visitors

- Visitors on school sites will be kept to a minimum to support essential school activities or student needs. Visitors will be required to be fully vaccinated, wear a mask indoors and will be encouraged to wear a mask outdoors if they cannot maintain physical distancing.
- A maximum of 2 parents or carers per student will be permitted onto school grounds for new students starting at the school – particularly for new Pre-Kinder, Kindergarten and Year 7 students. Parents are requested not to linger on school grounds any longer than necessary.



Keeping School Open

- Parents are asked to respect these rules to help keep our community safe.
- Kinross Wolaroi will do everything possible to maintain continuity of face-to-face learning including the use of casual staff.



Learning From Home

- We will continue to monitor the situation and where face-to-face learning is not possible, learning from home options may be supported for short periods.