



# Norris Road State School

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10/1/2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Delay to the start of the school year

Yesterday, the Premier announced a delay to the start of the school year by two weeks. Students in all primary schools, will now commence on **Monday February 7, 2022**. This delayed start is designed to avoid full school attendance during the peak of the Omicron wave, whilst also allowing more time for children to receive their COVID-19 vaccinations. I know that this news may be a relief to some parents, as well as a cause of anxiety and stress to other parents. We are all hopeful that school will recommence as planned on February 7, 2022, and we can welcome all students back into classrooms with face to face learning from this time.

## Parent information

The Department of Education (DOE) has developed a very informative [FAQ site](#). You can access this link [here](#).

DOE also has a dedicated [learning at home website](#) which is available for parents / carers if you wish to access these resources during the two-week delay. There is no expectation that parents provide an educational program from home, as the additional two weeks have been delegated as an “extension” of the current summer holidays. Teachers will be unable to provide remote learning activities or mark any work during this time.

## Children of Essential Workers

Norris Road State School will remain open from 24/1/2022 to 4/1/2022 (with the exception of the Australia Day Public Holiday) to **vulnerable children and children of essential workers only**. **Supervision is available when essential workers need it—it does not need to be accessed every day during that two-week period.**

*NB - An **essential worker** is someone who provides essential services and **who is unable to work from home**. This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses and other front-line medical staff, essential retail workers, school staff, haulage drivers and police officers. For a definitive definition of an essential worker, please access link [here](#).*

Staff members will only be supervising these children, with no teaching or educative activities being conducted during this time. Please be aware that students will be supervised by a range of different teachers and teacher aides, who may or may not be known to your child. Further details regarding supervision will be made available prior to 24/1/2022 .

As we will be working with a very small skeleton staff over the next two weeks, we will email families next week with a survey so you can identify whether you are an essential worker attending a workplace, and will require supervision. We appreciate your honesty and transparency when completing the survey .

## Vaccination

All school staff are required to be vaccinated by 24/1/2022. There is no requirement for students to be vaccinated.

## Further communication

Please make sure you regularly check your email and our Facebook page for any further updates or information.

With kindness,

Melissa Burke  
Principal