



Norris Road State School

28 Greenore Street
BRACKEN RIDGE QLD 4017
3261 0777 | admin@norrisroadss.eq.edu.au

3 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very excited to be welcoming your child back on Monday 7 February 2022. Two weeks has been too long to wait!

Whilst having been through lockdowns and restrictions, Monday will be slightly different with different expectations for parents for the **four weeks from February 7 to March 4, 2022**. We appreciate your cooperation. Please know the school will operate with trust that you will abide by the Department of Education's, [Back to School Plan](#), and acknowledge that some of you may find these short term changes difficult. We ask that when you are in contact with school staff, that you recognise that our intentions are positive, and the aim is health and safety of all.

At drop offs, your child may become upset when you separate, which can be expected after a long break. We understand this can be upsetting for you. Our recommendation is to keep goodbyes quick and brief to reduce the length of separation. In nearly all cases, this approach yields a happy child after you have left (even if you do have an image in your mind of your child, unhappy and crying all day!).

Please read the below information carefully so you are fully informed as to the arrangements in place for the next 4 weeks at Norris Road State School.

RETURN TO SCHOOL – February 7 to March 4, 2022	
Operation	Information
Vaccinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All vaccinations are conducted by Queensland Health, not the Department of Education. No child is administered a vaccine by Queensland Health without the written consent of a parent or their presence at the time of vaccination. Concerns regarding vaccination should be directed to Queensland Health and not the school.
Parents on school grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent access to the school site is limited during this time. Parents can access the school grounds in the following circumstances, with masks and social distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All parents/carers of Prep and Year 1 All parents/carers of vulnerable students All parents/ carers of new students starting at Norris Road State School this year Parents of students with pre-existing conditions (e.g. anxiety, ADHD) who may need the support of a parent on the first day to make the transition to school successful Parents collecting sick children.
Staff, visitors and contractors on site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All school staff and volunteers on site are required to be vaccinated. All contractors and external providers are required to demonstrate proof of vaccination prior to completing work on site. This is recorded through the Passtab system.
First day of school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maps will be available via the website and emailed to parents. Maps will also be displayed around the school on the first day and with school staff. Members of the Leadership, Inclusion and Support Teams will be present on the first day to help students find their class. All parents (P-6) will be unable to access classrooms Teachers of students in Year 2 to 6 will meet their class at the door. Teachers will write the name of their class in chalk on the concrete outside the room and have a welcome sign on the door so students can find their classes independently. Class Teachers will communicate to parents via email regarding preferred arrangements for the return of school supplies over the first week. Book packs for students in Prep and Year 1 can be taken to classes and left at front of the classroom. PKM, 1DC and 1KW will have tables set up for these to be placed upon, with a teacher aide providing support and direction to parents.



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Staggered arrival and departure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following arrangements are in place to reduce congestion around buildings and undercover areas by parents and students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The commencement of the school day will be extended until 8.45 am to reduce volume of students arriving through the gates. Students will not be marked as a late arrival until after 8:45 am. All students will continue to be dismissed at 2:30, except for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preps will be dismissed at 2:15 only into the care of parents/carers (students will remain in rooms if no parent/carer present). Year 1 will be dismissed at 2:25 only into the care of parents/carers (students will remain in rooms if no parent/carer present).
Commencement of the school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents and students in Prep and Year 1 will wait for their teacher to collect them from the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1KO and 1MG: P – 2 under covered area 1DC and 1KW: the grassed area at the bottom of the stairs PCJ, PAR and PJW: outside front of rooms PKM: outside the rear of the room (Prep Playground side). Parents of students in Years 2-6 will need to wait off site.
Completion of school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 2-6 students will be dismissed from rooms as normal, except for the following classes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1KO and 1MG: P – 2 under covered area 1DC and 1KW: at the bottom of the stairs PCJ and PJW: outside front of rooms PAR: hall side of room (back door) PKM: rear of classroom YMCA will collect students at the regular time of 2.30 pm. If you are collecting a child in Prep and Year 1 early, please exit the school grounds and wait for older children (Year 2-6) outside the school gates. Please do not loiter around buildings. Parents of students in Years 2-6 will need to wait off site.
Before school supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher aides will provide before school supervision in two areas – Junior Undercover Area and Senior Undercover Areas from 8.10 to 8.25 am. This is a permanent arrangement at Norris Road State School. Parents requiring care before 8.10am should be accessing YMCA Outside School Hours Care.
After school supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal arrangements apply, with Teacher Aides providing after school supervision on Pritchard Place.
Gates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership Team will be at the gates to answer parent questions about access to school grounds on the first day of school (Monday 7 February 2022). Please treat our staff with courtesy and respect, as they work to ensure we are compliant with Department of Education's, Back to School Plan.
Face masks - adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff are required to wear a mask when standing or moving around the classroom/indoors. Staff can remove their mask when seated or able to maintain 1.5 m distance while teaching/interacting with students or when outdoors.
Face masks- students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classes will receive a supply of masks for students in Year 3 – 6. Students can be encouraged but will not be forced to wear masks. School staff are not expected to enforce mask wearing on behalf of a parent.
Ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classrooms will be required to open windows and doors, and use ceiling fans to increase ventilation. This measure is generally regarded as sufficient for adequate ventilation.



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Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be asked to wash or sanitise their hands, particularly before and after eating, on entering the classroom, and after going to the toilet. Please remind your child to cover the mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing and sneezing, or cough into the elbow, and dispose of tissues in the bin (washing hands thoroughly afterwards). We have sufficient supplies of soap and hand sanitiser stations, as well as tissues at school.
Cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will continue with the 2-step precautionary clean – involving a normal hygienic clean followed by sanitising which is deemed sufficient for schools and other workplaces to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. In line with the Queensland Government's Managing COVID-19 in workplaces, deep cleaning is no longer required where a positive case of COVID-19 has been identified. PE and sports equipment will be cleaned between uses. Teachers and students can continue to borrow library books and Home Readers. These will also be subject to a cleaning and quarantine process. Teachers will sanitize IT equipment when leaving the lab or media room.
Camps and Excursions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Camp has been postponed. The new date is Term 4 Week 3 (17-19/10/2022). A letter has been sent to all year 6 families explaining the change. All excursions are postponed.
Swimming and Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming will commence Week 4 (16/2/2022) for Years 1-3. Letters will follow. School sport can continue, on and offsite.
Assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assemblies will be conducted online via Microsoft Teams. Our Year 6 Badge Ceremony will be recorded and shared with Year 6 families. Only students with a signed consent form will be able to be filmed.
Vulnerable students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medically vulnerable students will have a plan developed by our Inclusion Team to support their return to school with as many adjustments as is possible within the school setting. Please contact Debbie Boyd if you feel your child meets the criteria for being medically vulnerable and requires support to return to school.
Sick students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any child who is showing signs of illness or feeling unwell, must stay at home. If a child is showing signs of illness at school, a teacher or staff member will notify the office, ask the child to wear a mask, and direct them to the office. Office staff will contact the parent/carer immediately to collect their child. Students demonstrating symptoms will be isolated in the first aid room until a parent can collect them. A RAT will be available for students who develop symptoms while at school. The parent will administer the test, not school staff. When not on site, students can also attend their local Queensland Health testing clinic where they will be prioritised to receive a rapid antigen test (RAT). If the test result is negative and the student is well, they can return to school. If the test is positive, the student will need to follow Queensland Health quarantine and isolation requirements.
Sick staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When not on site, staff can also attend their local Queensland Health testing clinic where they will be prioritised to receive a rapid antigen test (RAT). RATs will be available for staff who develop symptoms while on site. If the test result is negative and the staff member is well, they can return to school. If the test is positive, the staff member will need to follow Queensland Health quarantine and isolation requirements.
Notification of COVID positive cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will receive a letter when there has been a positive case of COVID in the classroom. This will be sent electronically to you. No identifying information will be disclosed in the letter. Please ensure you notify your child's teacher or office staff if your child tests positive to COVID.



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<p>Contingency planning-staffing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will use our regular process of employing relief teachers to replace classroom teachers. • In the event that a class teacher becomes sick throughout the day, a specialist or Inclusion teacher will be asked to cover the class if a relief teacher cannot be sourced. • In the event of the inability to source a relief teacher for the class, an Inclusion or Specialist Teacher may be asked to cover the class for a number of days if the class teacher is COVID positive or a close household contact. • As many of our teachers are also parents, it may be possible that they are in isolation for a number of weeks, as they care for infected family members or experience multiple household cases. During this time, your child may have a number of teachers. While not preferable, this situation may be unavoidable. • On occasion, classes may have to be combined due to high staff absence and low student numbers. While not preferable, this situation may be unavoidable.
<p>Frequently Asked Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent can access Frequently Asked Questions here.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Many of the arrangements are different to our usual practices but working together will help us to emerge stronger and healthier. If you have any further questions or concerns, we encourage you to contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

Kind regards,

Melissa Burke

Principal