

# Return to Fahan School

## Term 1, 2022



## Health Measures

### Staying Home if Unwell

Students, staff and visitors must stay home if unwell or if they have symptoms of COVID-19. These may include runny nose, cough, fever, sore throat and temperature. This is important for the safety of all our students, staff and their families.

### Vaccination

All adult visitors who enter the School site for more than 15 minutes will need to check in at the School Office and provide evidence of their vaccination status.

Public Health advice states that vaccination is the best way to reduce the severity of COVID-19 symptoms and the likelihood of contracting the virus. In light of this, following a consultation with staff, we have developed a Fahan COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Policy.

This Policy establishes the mandatory requirement for all Fahan staff, contractors and volunteers to provide evidence of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Exemptions do apply and evidence must be in the form of a Vaccine Medical Exemption Form completed by a registered medical practitioner.

The vaccination of students is not currently mandated, although Public Health recommends vaccination for students aged over 5.

### Face Masks

Current Tasmanian guidelines require all staff, parents, visitors and students aged 12 years and over to wear a mask. Masks will be required for Years 7-12 students, however, there are exceptions. Masks do not need to be worn when eating or drinking, during PE or sport and do not have to be worn outside.

Masks are optional, but encouraged, for all Junior School students

All students, regardless of age, are required to wear a face mask when travelling on School buses. Masks will be available on buses and at the School Office as required.

Parents/carers who come onsite at pick-up and drop-off times (this needs to take 15 minutes or under) will be required to wear masks.

For more information on masks click [here](#). If a student has a medical exemption for the wearing of a mask, evidence must be presented to the Head of House in the Senior School.

At times, a teacher may need to remove a mask for clear enunciation or visibility of the mouth and some staff may choose to wear a face shield in these instances or for extra protection.

### Hygiene and Cleaning

We will continue our increased COVID-19 safe cleaning procedures including additional disinfecting of high-touch point surfaces.

All students must practise good hygiene to protect against infection and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students will be asked to wash their hands when they arrive at School and sanitise upon entry into the classroom, every time.

Good hygiene practices include:

- washing hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds, or alcohol-based hand sanitiser, when entering any room or building, and at regular intervals throughout the day.
- washing hands thoroughly before and after eating, after going to the toilet and after using a tissue.
- not sharing any food or drink or any equipment with others.
- covering coughs and sneezes with one's elbow or a tissue and placing used tissues straight into the bin.
- avoiding touching one's eyes, nose and mouth.

Sanitiser and tissues are available in every classroom, in Reception and as girls arrive at School. In addition to this, automated hand sanitiser dispensers are installed in high volume and flow areas around the School. All bathrooms and high-touch areas are cleaned often and bins are emptied frequently.

### Ventilation

Natural airflow will be increased by opening windows and doors and learning outdoors where possible. We are fortunate at Fahan to have plenty of outdoor learning areas and teachers are working on identifying opportunities to use these as much as possible.

Fahan has engaged the services of an Occupational Hygienist who is monitoring CO2 levels in learning spaces. Work to improve ventilation where necessary has been carried out over the summer holidays and air purifiers have been purchased for all classrooms and will be installed once available.

### Temperature Checking

On the advice of Occupational Physician, Dr Peter Sharman, routine temperature screening is not deemed necessary at this point and will only be used as needed.

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## Outbreak Management

### Safety Measures

The safety and wellbeing of all students and staff is our highest priority. As we return to School, we will continue to maintain physical distancing wherever possible, limit group sizes and minimise the mixing of students and staff across year levels.

### COVID-19 Testing

People who are symptomatic or identified as a close contact are also eligible to receive free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) from the State Government. Please use this link [here](#) if this is required.

The School has accessed a limited supply of RATs with more on the way. Each student will be provided with an initial supply of one test to be used if they develop COVID-19 symptoms during the first five weeks of term. Distribution of these will be advised and further information on supply will follow.

If a child is symptomatic and requires a PCR or RAT, they must advise the School of its outcome. This should be done using this link [here](#) to the Fahan School COVID-19 Test Notification Form. This needs to be completed as soon as possible, regardless of whether the result is positive or negative. This information will help us to keep track of potential clusters. Positive results must also be reported to Public Health [here](#).

Parents are also asked to report their child's absence, and the reason, by sending an email to: [absence@fahan.tas.edu.au](mailto:absence@fahan.tas.edu.au)

### Close Contacts

Current Government definitions state that:

- Children are not considered to be a close contact in the classroom setting.
- Children/students who are close contacts of a household case must follow the quarantine guidelines. Quarantine for 7 days and test on days 1 and 6.

### Confirmed Cases

Any student or staff member testing positive to COVID-19 must abide by Public Health requirements at the time – currently to quarantine for a minimum of 7 days and return to School only once symptom free.

To leave isolation, students will need to comply with Public Health's isolation requirements. When authorised to leave isolation Public Health will send you an email which is considered an official letter of release from isolation and can be used as proof of release or as a medical certificate. The School will require a copy of this release before the student returns to School.

Parents and carers and staff will be informed if there is a case in a class and will be asked to monitor their child for symptoms, test if needed and stay home if unwell. Unless otherwise advised, the class will remain open for learning and students who are well should continue to attend.

Public Health have determined that an 'outbreak' exists where 5 or more cases of COVID-19 occur within 7 days of each other. In such cases, non-confirmed staff and students from that class will be tested immediately and then every 2-3 days, although quarantining is only required if symptomatic or positive.

The School has deemed that if there is more than one case in a class within 7 days of each other, increased safety precautions will be put into place for that class. This may include students wearing masks, the provision of a RAT to take home, increased infection control procedures and a possible move to online learning.

Public Health may deem that a class will have to isolate in which case, learning would move online, including children of essential workers in this case. Students and staff will be required to follow State Government guidelines regarding confirmed cases and close contacts.

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### Learning Term 1, Weeks 1–5

#### Student Absences in the Junior School - Kindergarten to Year 6

Situation	Information	Action
Sick / Symptomatic / Unwell	Students who are home unwell are not required to attend their classes online. We encourage them to rest and recover.	Parents are asked to report their child's absence, and the reason, by sending an email to: <a href="mailto:absence@fahan.tas.edu.au">absence@fahan.tas.edu.au</a>  If your child is symptomatic and requires a PCR or RAT, they must advise the school of its outcome. This should be done via the Fahan School COVID-19 Test Notification Form which can be found <a href="#">here</a> .  If you produce a positive test, this is also required to be reported to Public Health. Please click <a href="#">here</a> to do so.
Close Contact / Isolating	Students who are classified as a close contact and are isolating, or who are isolating under government directive, are still required to complete their school activities. Activities will be provided for students to access online.	Classroom teachers will have Zoom contact with their students daily. Teachers will have a variety of home learning activities available on your daughter's class page. Further information will be provided.
Vulnerable Students	Students with complex and chronic conditions and those who are immunocompromised (as defined by our Occupational Physician), may require individual arrangements to be made.	The School will contact those parents/carers of students who may be in such a situation to determine attendance requirements. Where attendance is not advised, an appropriate program will be provided, including the resources needed to learn from home.

#### Student Absences in the Senior School - Years 7 to 12

Situation	Information	Action
Sick / Symptomatic / Unwell	Students who are home unwell are not required to attend their classes online. We encourage them to rest and recover.	Parents are asked to report their child's absence, and the reason, by sending an email to: <a href="mailto:absence@fahan.tas.edu.au">absence@fahan.tas.edu.au</a>  If your child is symptomatic and requires a PCR or RAT, they must advise the school of its outcome. This should be done via the Fahan School COVID-19 Test Notification Form which can be found <a href="#">here</a> .  If you produce a positive test, this is also required to be reported to Public Health. Please click <a href="#">here</a> to do so.
Close Contact / Isolating	Students who are classified as a close contact and are isolating, or who are isolating under government directive, are still required to attend their lessons online.	A Zoom link, and all necessary resources will be provided on the student's class page by their relevant teacher. Students are asked to log into their class Zoom promptly at the beginning of the lesson.
Vulnerable Students	Students with complex and chronic conditions and those who are immunocompromised (as defined by our Occupational Physician), may require individual arrangements to be made.	The School will contact those parents/carers of students who may be in such a situation to determine attendance requirements. Where attendance is not advised, an appropriate program will be provided, including the resources needed to learn from home.

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### Drop Off and Pick Up Information

We recognise that parents being provided greater access to our School site is essential for building and maintaining connections. Our aim is to balance parent access to the School with the safety and wellbeing of all members of our community. For the first five weeks of term, we ask parents and carers to take note of the following drop off and pick up procedures.

#### General Information

- Stop, drop and go will continue in the express zone at the front of the School. Cars will enter from Fisher Lane and follow the loop around past Nateby House until they arrive at the front entrance of the School. Staff will be on site to assist with traffic movement.
- The School is opening access to Coolabah Road at the top of the campus as an additional access point to allow for greater distribution of people.
- As we are trying to minimise the mixing of vulnerable year groups, the Kindergarten playground will not be used as a thoroughfare and only Kindergarten and Prep students and staff will have access. All other foot traffic should use the paths around the outside of the Kindergarten gated area.
- Parents and carers are asked to limit their time on campus to less than 15 minutes and masks must be worn at all times whilst on campus.

### Drop Off Procedures

#### First Day of School (Monday 7 February)

##### Kindergarten

Parents are asked to arrive with their daughters at 9:00am and make their way to the Kindergarten playground to meet with teachers, Mrs Rebecca Wiggins and Mrs Meg Denman. This will allow parents to settle the girls into their first day before class begins. Adults will be required to check in at the Kindergarten playground and wear masks.

##### Prep

Parents may drop off their daughters at the Kindergarten gate. Please refer to the maps on the opposite page. Staff will be there to assist.

##### New students

New students are asked to meet outside Reception from 8:15am. Staff will be there to assist and parents may accompany their daughters to the closest exterior entrance of their classroom should they wish. Staff will also be guiding students who are dropped off.

##### All Other Students

- Parents may accompany their daughters to the closest exterior entrance of their classroom. They are not to enter any buildings and masks must be worn. Check-in is not required for drop off only as this will take under 15 minutes.
- Stop, drop and go at the front of the School is also encouraged (from 8:15am) and younger students will be accompanied to their classrooms as required.

#### From Tuesday 8 February

##### Junior School

- Parents may accompany their daughters to the closest exterior entrance or gate of their classroom. Parents and carers are not to enter any buildings and masks must be worn at all times. Check-in is not required for drop off only as this will take under 15 minutes.
- Stop, drop and go from in the express zones at the front of the School is also encouraged from 8:15am and younger students will be accompanied to their classrooms as required.

##### Senior School

- Stop, drop and go in the express zones at the front of the School is encouraged from 8:15am.
- Students walking from the Coolabah Road entrance are reminded not to walk through the Kindergarten playground.

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### Pick Up Procedures

#### Junior School General Information

- Kindergarten to Year 3 families are asked to please communicate your daughter's after school arrangements via the School diary or email to the teacher.
- All Junior School students who are travelling home on the School bus will be accompanied by a staff member to their respective buses.

#### Kindergarten and Prep

Parents may collect their daughters from the top Kindergarten gate (nearest the Kindergarten classroom) or from the express stop, drop and go zones at the front of the School at 3:00pm.

#### Years 1 and 2

Students may be collected from the designated pick up point at the sand pit outside the Kindergarten playground or from the express stop, drop and go zones at the front of the School at 3:00pm.

*Please note, if a Kindergarten to Year 2 student is not collected by 3:10pm they will be accompanied to the stop, drop and go zones at the front of the School for collection there.*

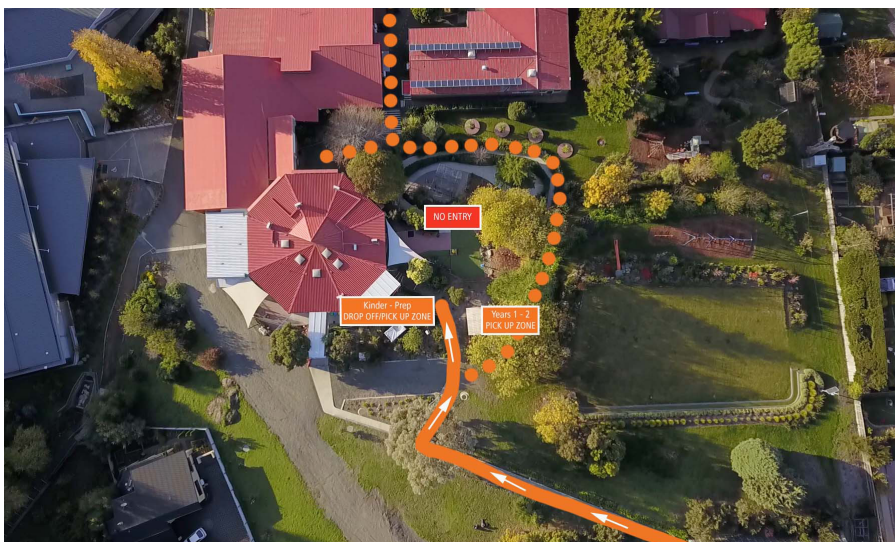
#### Years 3-6

With parental permission, students may walk independently to one of the access points to meet their parents or carers or they can be picked up from the express stop, drop and go zones at the front of the School at 3:20pm. Please note, staff will only be on duty at the express zones at the front of the School.

#### Senior School

- Stop, drop and go at the front of the School is encouraged
- Students may walk independently to one of the access points to meet their parents or carers. Please note, staff will only be on duty at the express zones at the front of the School.

*A reminder that the express zones in front of the School are not parking bays and girls will be waiting and ready to step into cars safely in the afternoons.*



#### Student Start and Finish Times

Kindergarten and Prep  
9:00am–3:00pm

Years 1–2  
8:45am–3:00pm

Years 3–6  
8:30am–3:20pm

Years 7–12  
8:30am–3:30pm

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### Parent Information

#### Canteen

Online orders are taken before school through the Flexischools App which is available free from the Apple and Android App stores.

For the first five weeks of term, the following changes will be made to canteen access:

##### Recess

- There will be no access to the canteen at recess time for Junior School students.
- Senior School students may access the canteen at recess time but must remain socially distanced.

##### Lunch

- All students must order their lunch online and have it collected by the lunch monitor to be delivered to their designated eating area.
- There will be no other access to the canteen for Senior School students.

*Food and drink are NOT to be shared at any time.*

#### Uniform Shop

Uniform items can be continued to be ordered online through the Flexischools website or App. The Uniform Shop has been relocated to the top floor of Nateby House with access from the ramp below the Senior Boarding House. Parents and carers with Uniform Shop appointments will be directed there from the School Office after checking in.

#### School Events

No large events will take place until it is deemed safe to do so. Unfortunately, this means the *New Parent Welcome Dinner* and the Parents and Friends' welcome event, *Sunset at the Barn*, have been postponed. We will advise alternative dates for these events in due course.

#### Excursions and Assemblies

Excursions will still take place, with COVID-safe precautions in place. Some assemblies may occur online via Zoom as required.

#### Camps

No camps will take place in the first five weeks of School, but an alternative program has been arranged for those classes who would otherwise have gone on camp, as the team-building benefits of these activities are so important. These camps will take place later in the year so students do not miss out.

#### Parent Teacher and Information Evenings

Parent Teacher and Settling In meetings may take place on site, face-to-face with the consent of both parties. Check-in, mask and vaccination requirements will apply. Meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams and telephone will be offered. Information Evenings will be conducted online via Zoom.

#### Co-Curricular Sport

It is expected that all sport rosters will begin as normal with COVID-safe measures in place, relevant to each school.

#### Water Fountains

All water fountains on campus remain closed *for drinking purposes*. Some water fountains do have the capacity to fill up water bottles.

*Please keep a close eye on Edsmart notices for any immediate changes or potential updates to circumstances within the first five weeks.*