



## Return to School, Term 1, 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please find our COVID plan for 2022. Being together in a classroom is the most effective way for students to learn and grow. We will do everything they can to maintain continuity of face-to-face learning. I know that I have your trust and cooperation.

Sue Host

Principal

<b>Public Health Order Catholic Schools NSW and NSW Health</b>	<b>Plan for OLPS</b>
<b>STUDENT COHORTING</b>	
<p>Schools will continue to use cohort arrangements and consider staggered drop-off and pick ups, break times, playground and canteen access.</p> <p>Staff are mandated to be fully vaccinated with two doses of vaccine.</p>	<p>At OLPS, we will have two student cohorts: An Infants Cohort and a Primary Cohort. There will be no mixing of these cohorts at school. For school arrival, Kendall St and Grayling Rd gates will be open for students.</p> <p><b>Infants</b> Before School: 8:25 - 8:50am Play in the bush and play equipment Morning tea: 11am - 11:30am Lunch: 1pm - 1:45pm Dismissal: Just before 3:05pm</p> <p><b>Primary</b> Before School: 8:25am - 8:50am Play on the asphalt and All-Purpose Court Morning tea: 10:30am - 11am Lunch: 12:15 - 1pm Dismissal: 3:05pm</p> <p>All OLPS staff are fully vaccinated.</p>
<b>VACCINATIONS</b>	
<p>All staff on school sites must be fully vaccinated.</p> <p>The NSW Government strongly encourage all students and their families to get vaccinated.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Once eligible, all adults are encouraged to get <a href="#">booster shots</a>.</p>	<p>All OLPS staff are fully vaccinated and most staff have had their booster.</p>
<b>TESTING</b>	
<b>Before the start of term 1</b>	Rapid Antigen Tests were handed out to families on Thursday and Friday of last week.

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<p>All staff and students are asked to take a rapid antigen test and get a negative result before attending school.</p> <p>Rapid antigen tests will be provided to all staff and students through their schools. Schools will inform parents on how these kits can be collected.</p> <p><b>At the commencement of term 1</b></p> <p>For the first 4 weeks, students and staff should take a rapid antigen test twice a week before attending school. Test kits will continue to be supplied by schools.</p> <p>Students who are household close contacts must isolate at home for 7 days.</p> <p><b>COVID-19 positive cases</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Staff and students who get a positive rapid antigen test must <a href="#">register it through Service NSW</a> as soon as possible.</p> <p>Staff and students who receive a positive rapid antigen test must tell their school as soon as possible and follow NSW Health advice.</p> <p>Schools will regularly communicate to parents about the presence and impact of COVID-19 in their community.</p>	<p>The use of Rats are recommended for all staff and students, twice week, on Monday morning and Wednesday morning.</p> <p>COMPASS: If your child is a close contact and has to isolate, please use “Other explained absence” reason and write in the comments box isolating due to COVID.</p> <p>Please ring Mrs Berry in the office if your child tests positive after a RAT.</p>
PHYSICAL DISTANCING	
<p>Physical distancing of 1.5m should be maintained, for staff and adult and for children wherever possible.</p> <p><b>STAFF</b> Staffrooms must be fully ventilated, with windows open wherever possible.</p> <p>Teachers and staff must not congregate or sit together in staffrooms.</p>	<p>Staff and children are encouraged to physically distance indoors and outdoors wherever possible.</p> <p>School Assembly will take place outside with students in their cohort.</p> <p><b>STAFF</b> At OLPS, the nature of the cohorting results in a few staff in the staffroom at any one time.</p> <p>All staff meetings take place virtually.</p> <p>All staff are to wear masks indoors.</p>

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<p>Physical distancing rules and strict personal hygiene protocols must apply at all times. High-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in staffrooms must be cleaned thoroughly throughout the day.</p> <p>Masks must be worn in staff rooms, temporary removal allowed in line with PHO (e.g. eating or drinking.)</p>	<p>All staff are to sign in using Service NSW QR code.</p>
<b>MASKS</b>	
<p><b>Catholic Schools NSW:</b> Masks recommended indoors and outdoors for primary students (unless exercising or eating).</p> <p><b>NSW Health state:</b> Masks are strongly recommended indoors for primary students.</p> <p>All staff are to wear masks indoors and outdoors.</p>	<p>At OLPS, we have decided that parents can decide if they wish their child to wear a mask indoors. Students will not be required to wear them outdoors.</p> <p>Staff to wear masks indoors. Masks may be removed when eating and drinking or when needing to give instruction to students. Staff are not required to wear masks outdoors.</p>
<b>HYGIENE</b>	
<p>Students should maintain strict personal hygiene and physical distancing where possible.</p>	<p>At OLPS, students and staff to regularly handwash or disinfect hands; before entering class, before eating and when using the bathroom.</p> <p>Hygienist on site between 10:30-2:30pm to disinfect all high touch areas throughout the school including play equipment.</p> <p>Staff and students on site are reminded and encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cover coughs and sneezes with elbow or tissue</li> <li>• place tissues straight in the bin</li> <li>• avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth</li> <li>• do not share food and drink</li> <li>• do not drink from the bubblers</li> <li>• do not share personal equipment or stationery</li> <li>• initiate non-contact greetings</li> </ul>
<b>WATCH for SYMPTOMS</b>	
<p>If your child is unwell – even with <b>mild symptoms</b> – you must keep them home and get them tested.</p> <p>If children have any symptoms, they should take a PCR (nose and throat swab) test or rapid antigen test (RAT).</p> <p>If symptoms continue your child should stay home and take another RAT or PCR test in 24 hours.</p>	<p>At OLPS, students and staff who are unwell are to stay home until they are well. If staff and students have COVID symptoms then they must get tested with a RAT or PCR.</p> <p>A register of staff and students who have been tested <b>positive</b> is kept in the front office. Negative results do not need to be reported to NSW Health or the school.</p> <p>Logging your child’s absence in COMPASS: If your child is absent due to a positive COVID test please use “Medical illness/ injury” reason in the drop down box and write in the comments COVID.</p>

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<p>If that test is also negative, your child may return to school if another diagnosis is confirmed such as hay fever.</p>	<p>If your child is a close contact and has to isolate, please use “Other explained absence” reason and write in the comments box isolating due to COVID.</p> <p>Students and staff who are unwell at school are to be sent home.</p> <p>When admin staff are dealing with sick children they must wear PPE and take the patient’s temperature.</p>
VENTILATION	
<p>Open or well-ventilated spaces reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 because infectious particles are more quickly diffused in the open air than in spaces with less ventilation. Outdoor settings may be used where practicable.</p>	<p>At OLPS, windows and doors will remain open throughout the day.</p> <p>Regular inspection, maintenance and cleaning of air conditioners.</p> <p>Avoid using only recirculated air in HVAC systems and increase the outside air intake.</p> <p>The CO2 in the air will be monitored with a CO2 monitor and will be responded to appropriately. The hygienist will measure the air quality regularly throughout the day.</p> <p>Teachers are encouraged to have regular lessons in outdoor spaces including the local parks.</p>
PICK UP	
<p>Parents and carers must follow their school’s advice regarding changes to student drop off and pick up.</p> <p>If parents are out of their car, they must practice physical distancing and wear a mask.</p>	<p>At OLPS, all siblings MUST be pick up from Grayling Road.</p> <p>For those children who are the only student at OLPS and they are in Infants at OLPS they may be picked up from Kendall St Gate (Gate 1). For those children who are the only student at OLPS and they are in Primary at OLPS they may be picked up from the Driveway Gate (Gate 2).</p> <p><b>Infants Cohort:</b> 3:05pm <b>Primary Cohort:</b> 3:05pm</p>
VISITORS	
<p>Visitors on school sites should be kept to a minimum to support essential school activities or student needs.</p> <p>Visitors will be required to wear a mask indoors and will be encouraged to wear a mask outdoors if they cannot maintain <b><u>physical distancing</u></b>.</p> <p>Schools are advised to allow a maximum of 2 parents or carers per student on to school grounds for kindergarten orientation or year 7 transition.</p>	<p>At OLPS, if parents are required on-site they must stay in office area and follow the mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the service NSW QR code when entering the school.</p> <p>Parents are asked to wait outside the school gates for their children before and after school.</p> <p>Kindy parents may walk their child onto the grounds during Best Start Assessments and from 3 February to 11 February inclusive. Parents are asked to wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Parents are</p>

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	<p>asked to settle their child quickly on the playground and then leave.</p> <p>Parents can pick up their child from the Kindy classroom on 3 and 4 February at 3:05pm. From Monday 7 February Kindy children will meet their parent at the appropriate gate. (see PICK UP notes above).</p>
<b>UNIFORM</b>	
<p>Uniform Stores can only operate if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– are online</li> <li>– have pre-ordering arrangements in place, with one dedicated staff member attending outside of school hours to arrange distribution.</li> </ul>	<p>At OLPS, parents can order uniforms online through the School Website/Uniform page.</p> <p>Uniform supplies will be filled and left at the school office for collection. Parents will be notified when the order is ready.</p>
<b>CANTEEN</b>	
<p>Canteen can operate where appropriate hygiene measures are in place, as long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– they can ensure that they are accessed by one cohort at a time</li> <li>– physical distancing is in place</li> <li>– canteen staff follow normal COVID-safe protocols around vaccinations and testing</li> </ul>	<p>At OLPS, the Canteen will be open every Monday and Wednesday for morning tea and lunch. The canteen will be open from 2 February. .</p> <p>Infant cohort and Primary Cohort will access the canteen separately.</p> <p>The Canteen Coordinator, Mrs Louise Johnston and one Canteen helper can work in the Canteen. All canteen helpers must be fully vaccinated.</p>
<b>SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES</b>	
<p>Sport may continue within existing personal development, health and physical education (PDHPE) classes, in accordance with physical distancing guidelines.</p> <p>Library activities are permitted in line with the Infection control requirement for libraries.</p>	<p>At OLPS, Sports lessons by Mrs Sargent will take place on Thursdays.</p> <p>Library lessons will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays.</p>
<b>EXTRA CURRICULA</b>	
<p>COVID-19 will be considered in all risk assessments. Guidance will be provided to schools on applying appropriate safeguards across a range of activities.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>To Be Advised</p>

### What parents need to do to prepare:

Ensure when your child returns to school they bring:

- Book Supplies
- Labelled headphones (if not at school)
- A mask labelled with their name (if you prefer)
- A drink bottle (bubblers will be turned off)

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### **Morning Arrival**

**Students can enter via the Kendall St or Grayling Rd gate.**

When the children arrive at school, they place their bag on their bag hook and then go to their student cohort area to play:

**Infants:** play in the bush area and play equipment.

**Primary:** play on the asphalt and All-Purpose Court

### **Afternoon Dismissal**

**Remember that all siblings must exit via Grayling Road gate in the afternoon. All children who have no siblings at OLPS will exit via Kendall Street gate if they are in Infants. All children who have no siblings at OLPS will exit via Driveway Gate if they are in primary.**

**Infants:** will be dismissed just before 3:05pm;

**Primary:** will be dismissed at 3:05pm