

Junee High School

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Junee High School 52 Lydia Street (PO Box 141) Junee NSW 2663

Advice to Parents and Students: Monday 17 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Due to ongoing concerns with COVID 19, there are new restrictions coming into force from Wednesday 19 August.

Schools are operating full time while actively following health advice.

Schools continue to be safe, and operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health advice. All students should be learning on campus unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.

The activities that are permitted at school will be conducted in a way that is safe and appropriate in the current environment. Those that remain on hold will be reviewed during the term and will recommence when appropriate based on health and other relevant advice

Please see <u>https://education.nsw.gov.au/inside-the-department/covid-19/school-staff#School4</u> regarding the changes but I have summarised the main points for Junee HS.

School attendance:

Students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.

• In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded **NOT** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home.

• NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

• Students and staff with flu like symptoms will need to **provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test** result before being permitted to return to school.

• Schools are not required to conduct widespread temperature screening or mandate the wearing of a mask.

• All schools will be vigilant when implementing infection control, physical distancing and personal hygiene protocols to protect the health and safety of students and staff. Schools will promote the need to follow good hygiene practices such as:

- regularly washing hands
- avoiding sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.





School activities:

Additional safety measures for school activities have been put in place to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools for the remainder of Term 3.

The following principles underpin these measures:

• Where possible, students will stay within their relevant cohort group (i.e. class, year group, or stage) for all learning activities within their school in order to limit close contacts to the relevant student cohort. This will happen for school sport. Special Interest Groups will stay in their groups

• Inter school activities must remain within the local Junee community or Southern Slopes zone. This applies to all interschool sport and physical activities, curriculum activities, arts activities and extra-curricular activities organised or sponsored by the school. Schools must not travel outside of their local community area.

Regional areas cannot travel into metropolitan areas or other regional areas.

- Parents/carers and other non-essential visitors are not allowed on the school site.
- Year 11 and 12 students completing TAFE and other Vet programs may continue.

Activities that can take place:

- Use the school library
- Engage in sporting activities within restrictions
- Canteens and uniform shops open
- All VET work placements can proceed subject to the availability of placement, appropriate risk assessments, and a
- COVID-19 Safety Plan must be in place.

• School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation and a COVID-19 Safety Plan is in place.

- School assemblies (limited to 15 minutes and no external visitors)
- Incursions/external providers can provide activities that support delivery of curriculum (e.g. music tutors, sport skills development programs, science demonstrations).
- Day field trips to outdoor locations with no physical distancing requirements can take place (e.g. DoE
- Environmental Education Centres and sport and recreation facilities, trips to local river to collect water samples)
- Face-to-face TAFE attendance (see TAFE website for further information)
- School photos
- After school Taekwondo classes in the MPC, with a COVID Safe Plan in place.
- SRE/SEE lessons within restrictions
- Work experience for students with a COVID Safe Plan in place.
- P&C meetings and events must be on-line only.

• Parent/teacher meetings will be online unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion. We are working on organising the Parent Teacher online meetings for later this term.

Year 12

I will meet with Year 12 students and parents during a Microsoft Teams meeting on Wednesday 26 August (6pm) to discuss the last few months for Year 12.

Items to discuss:

- Last few weeks of study and preparation
- Year 12 Prayer breakfast. We are able make modifications if we want to hold this event.
- Year 12 Graduation. We may hold a Year 12 assembly at school without parents to recognise the completion of school. Discussion of what we could do!
- Term 4 first week activities and HSC exams

Activities on hold for Term 3

The following events will be reconsidered in Term 3. For now, these events must remain on hold.

• School formals, dances, graduation or other social events are not permitted. Schools may consider delaying events until later in the year.

For Junee HS, unfortunately this means no School Ball in Term 3.

- Year 7 orientation has been delayed until Term 4.
- School camps
- Excursions (other than field trips explained above)
- Interstate excursions
- School or community run playgroups
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events
- Parent and carer volunteers canteen and uniform shop volunteers are permitted

• School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school BBQs, large parent information evenings, and large on-site cultural events.

• Interschool sport, drama, debating and other events that are not within the local community or zone including gala days and regional sporting carnivals.

• Certain large arts and sports events are cancelled or delayed.

• All group singing (choirs) and/or other chanting activities, as well as the use of wind instruments in group settings, are not permitted. At this point our school bands are on hold.

Student Wellbeing

• If a parent/carer has concerns regarding their child, the first point of contact should be the Year Advisor or class teacher. Contact can be made via the office or email (addresses are on the school website

https://junee-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/our-staff.html)

• School counselling and chaplaincy services remain available to students and families. Contact should be made via the office.

Cleaning & Hygiene

Additional cleaning will take place during the day to ensure surfaces, toilets and high traffic areas are cleaned regularly. There will also be additional topping up of soap, toilet paper and paper towels.

Students should bring their own water bottle as the bottle refill stations are open with the bubblers still closed. Students should practise good hygiene, wash hands regularly and avoid sharing items.

Bus Services

• Bus services will operate as normal.

Thanks to everyone for your understanding and patience!

Please contact the school to arrange a meeting with staff if you need to discuss the changes or your child's learning.

Yours faithfully

Scott Frazier Principal