



COVID 19 Update 17th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Department of Education have released new guidelines for school operations under COVID-19 (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families#%3Cstrong%3ESchool2>). Many of our current practices remain unchanged. We do want to stress the importance of the following:

School Attendance:

Students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate
- They are currently unwell

NSW Health have advised that parents are NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Parents will be called to come and collect students if any of these symptoms present throughout the school day.

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.

Parent Action:

Please keep your child home if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms and have them tested. Please email mbell@sras.nsw.edu.au if your child is having a COVID-19 test, and then once a negative result is confirmed, please email mbell@sras.nsw.edu.au a screenshot of the results.

Good Hygiene Practices

We will continue to be vigilant about implementing infection control, physical distancing and personal hygiene protocols to protect the health and safety of students and staff. This includes:

- Regularly washing hands including washing or sanitizing hands at the start and completion of lessons
- Avoid 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

In addition to these Department of Education recommendations we will continue hand sanitiser upon arrival at school, as well as temperature testing for Years 11 and 12 and all staff.

Parent Action:

Please encourage your child to practice good hygiene at home and supply a water bottle. If you arrive at school late (8:30am - Senior School or 8:45am - Junior School), please ensure your child signs in at the office for hand sanitiser and temperature testing.

Additional Safety Measures

- Where possible students will remain in their relevant cohort group. This means that all learning activities will occur within each year group or stage.
- Parents/carers and other non-essential adults are not permitted onsite. Please use the Kiss and Drop. If you do park to drop off or pick your child up, please stay in your car until the school bell has rung.
- All group singing (choirs) and/or other chanting activities, as well as the use of wind instruments in group settings, are not permitted. Special arrangements are in place for HSC students.

Parent Action:

Unless absolutely necessary please do not come onto the school grounds. If you are picking your child up by vehicle, use the Kiss and Drop. If you park, please do not exit your car until the bell rings. Please do not approach classrooms to speak with teachers. There will be no face-to-face meetings unless with the express permission of the Principal.

We remind all parents of the importance of using the Kiss and Drop safely and considerately. Students must not exit the vehicle until the yellow zone. No parents or students are to access the rear of the car. These rules are to minimise risk of accident, as well as to create a more streamlined flow.

Activities and Events affected at Nowra Anglican College:

Unfortunately, these latest guidelines will impact a number of events and activities.

Valedictory Assembly

This recent communication from the Department of Education has confirmed that we will have to proceed with Plan B, outlined to Year 12 students in an earlier letter. This will mean that only Year 12 students and select teachers will be able to attend the ceremony. Some other elements of this event may need to be modified. We will send a separate communication to Year 12 students and parents as we finalise the details.

Showcase

Our Creative and Performing Arts Team are committed to adapting and seeing opportunities in order to learn and celebrate the Performing Arts together. As we can no longer sing in a group, and our orchestra cannot practice or perform with woodwind instruments we are once again reimagining Showcase in Celebration of the Arts at NAC. We aim to craft a range of options to keep building technique and skills through exploring dance and physical performance. We anticipate that these will provide additional benefits in the area of well being as well as an opportunity to have fun together.

The Lion King

We are still very thrilled that this is going to be our first ever Junior School Musical. Our students have already learned so much in this part of our music curriculum, and we want their learning journey to continue. While we cannot continue to sing together, we can proceed with other elements of the performance, including acting, dance and moving to music. We are hoping we can film this and distribute to families.



Stage Choirs

Another activity impacted by the current restrictions are our stage choirs which are a valuable part of our music curriculum program.

Stage 1 - will journey around the world. In the weekly choir activity they will participate in percussion, movement and listening activities from a different part of the world.

Stage 2 - Drama Program/Play Building. These students will tackle a play, working collaboratively as performers, as well as elements of performance including costume. The Year 3 and 4 instrumental program will continue with modifications to accommodate restrictions on woodwind instruments.

Stage 3 - Marching Band. Year 5 and 6 will participate in a fun Marching Band activity which will offer skill development of marching, drumming/percussion and collaboration.

Senior School Orchestra

While we can no longer rehearse together, we are going to collaborate on Christmas Carols to add some festivity to the end of the year. Students will be provided with music and are encouraged to practice pieces individually. Students will then be recorded individually and edited together for some celebratory music.

Senior School Sport

We have been asked to keep students in their relevant cohort group. This will mean that we can no longer have sporting activities mixing Year 7 to 10 students. Wednesday sport is being restructured to meet the new guidelines so some students may need to change their sport option.

It is disappointing that we have had further restrictions placed on our school community, but I hope that together we can continue to support each other and look for opportunities. I want to remind you that if your child or family are struggling, please reach out for help, either from us at the College, or there are a number of other services available:

- Kids Helpline (1800 551800 or www.kidshelp.com.au)
- Lifeline (131114 or www.lifeline.org.au)
- Headspace Nowra (4446 7300 or www.eheadspace.org.au)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the College on 02 4421 7711 or office@nac.nsw.edu.au.

Yours faithfully,



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Principal