



Return to On-Site Learning:

Summary of Covid-Safe Expectations for our Learning Community

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are writing to inform you that *all students* of Upwey South Primary School will be returning to on-site learning on **Monday 12th October 2020.**

We are very excited to have the opportunity to once again come together as a Learning Community, and have tailored our Covid-Safe Expectations to specifically address the physical and social-emotional needs of our community.

Please note that the return date for students in schools across metropolitan Melbourne may differ across neighbourhoods.

You should plan for your child's successful return to school based upon your school's particular localised guidelines.

These guidelines have been made in consultation with Department of Education and Training (DET) Regional Staff.

Hours of Schooling

What remains the same?

- At Upwey South Primary School there will be no staggered start times.
- Students may arrive to school from 8:40am each weekday.
- All students will engage in schooling from 8:50am-3:30pm each weekday.
- Students will enter/exit school buildings via an allocated classroom door. *These will be clearly marked for our first day on-site (Monday 12/10/2020), with additional staff being on-duty to assist students.*
- The breezeway gate adjacent to the Performing Arts Room will remain locked before-school, and after-school.

What is different?

- Students will not line-up in the morning. Instead, students are to directly enter their classroom at 8:50am via marked classroom doors.
- Students will not be able to play/loiter within the school grounds after school. All students are expected immediately to vacate the school grounds.
- At 3:40pm each weekday, an announcement will be made directing any remaining students to make their way to the school office in order to confirm collection arrangements.

Access for Parents/ Carers and siblings

Our Covid-Safe Expectations for parents/carers and siblings are designed to promote student social-emotional welfare, and are based upon the localised geographical layout of our school.

What remains the same?

- Due to the expansive geographical layout of our school, and multiple entry points, parents/carers may choose to enter the school grounds with their child/ren if this helps to promote the social-emotional welfare of the student.
- When entering the school grounds, all people aged 12 years and older must wear a suitable facemask which meets the guidelines provided by the Chief Health Officer. *This does not apply to students enrolled at Upwey South Primary School.*

What is different?

- Parents/Carers are not to enter school buildings, unless directly visiting the school office.
- Parents/Carers are not to loiter or gather in groups within the school grounds.
- Siblings are not to play on equipment, or play within the school grounds during weekdays.
- All family members are expected to vacate the premises immediately following drop-off/ collection of their child.
- Until further notice, parents/carers are unable to assist in the classroom.

Access to Out-of-School-Hours-Care (OSHC)

What remains the same?

- The OSHC Service will retain the hours of operation for before-school of 7:00am- 8:50am.
- The OSHC Service will retain the hours of operation for after-school of 3:30pm- 6:30pm.
- Parents may continue to accompany their child/ren to the OSHC service door.

What is different?

- Due to social-distancing guidelines, the OSHC building may be accessed by staff during recess breaks; in place of the current staffroom.

Hygiene Measures for Students and Staff

What remains the same?

- Staff will have their temperature taken upon arrival to school. *DET has not yet provided specific guidance outlining if it is necessary for all students to have their temperature taken upon arrival.*
- All members of our learning community are expected to sanitise their hands upon entry and exit of buildings, following toileting, and before consuming any foods.
- Staff are required to observe social-distancing guidelines when interacting with adults, and must wear an appropriate facemask.
- Facemasks may be removed by staff, if the wearing of a mask has a limiting effect upon the delivery of instruction.
- Students may choose to wear a facemask. This is a family-based decision and will be supported by the school. *The wearing of facemasks by students is not a requirement.*
- Students may continue to access all areas of the playgrounds during recess breaks. Year level allocated playground equipment remains in place.
- All students are required to bring a water-bottle to school each day, as opposed to drinking from the water bubblers.

What's different?

- There are no changes to hygiene measures.

Please note that the Covid-Safe Expectations contained within this document, are the guidelines which are required to promote a successful transition to on-site learning. These guidelines have been designed specifically for Upwey South Primary School, and reflect the most up-to-date information provided to schools.

Should additional information be provided to schools, which impacts upon these guidelines, this will be communicated to parents/carers and students in a timely manner.

Additional guidelines, such as access to extra-curricular opportunities, school assemblies, cross-level groupings, graduations, transitions, etc will be determined once further information is provided to schools.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding our Covid-Safe Expectations, please email the School Principal @ damien.kitch@education.vic.gov.au

Kind regards,

Damien Kitch

Principal

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