



Bellinghen Public School

William Street
PO Box 42
Bellinghen NSW 2454

Principal:
Phones:
Fax:
Email:
Web:

Vanessa Cavanagh
02 6655 1147
02 6655 2615
bellinghen-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
<http://www.bellinghen-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

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Dear Parents,

Next week will see a return to Bellinghen Public School for all of our students. Each school will need to make local decisions based on their school. For this reason please note the following procedures for our school. At the end of the note I have added information provided for all schools with general information from the Department of Education.

At Bellinghen PS:

- No visitors on school site unless they are essential and have permission.
- All students are to return to school on Monday 25th May. If your child is sick they must stay at home. If they have an ongoing medical condition, they will need a medical certificate. Normal attendance procedures will be in place. (More information is provided below)
- We will not hold school assemblies at this time.
- Students must bring a drink bottle as they cannot drink from the bubblers.
- No private music lessons will be provided by external tutors at this time.
- Teachers will now be delivering their lessons to the students face to face so we will no longer be providing extra work packs unless your child is unable to attend school due to a medical condition with a medical certificate.
- Drop off of students – please “drop and kiss” and allow your child to enter the school on their own. Kindergarten students may be dropped off under the hall covered area in the morning.
- Collecting students at the end of the day: K-2 students will be escorted by their teachers to the grassed area in front of the admin building. 3-6 students will make their own way to the grassed area. Parents should use the old gate/fence opening to collect students. Parents are asked to wait on the path with social distancing.
- Students who ride/walk to school will be allowed to leave at the end of the day as per usual.
- The canteen will be open for recess and lunch orders only. There will be **no** other sales during the day.
- The uniform shop is closed but uniform items may be purchased by completing a uniform order form available at the office.

Thank you for supporting our students and teachers at this time of transition back to school.

Ness Cavanagh
Principal

Schools are safe and open for full time face-to-face learning

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

School attendance

All 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
- They are currently unwell.

Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPCC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

If your child is unwell, **do not** send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact your school.

Reporting and assessment

Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school.

You will receive your child's semester 1 report early term 3.

This will be a simplified version of the report you normally receive.

School activities

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

What children can do:

- Use the school library at lunch time.
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead

School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Your school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap. Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.

School grounds

There should be **no visitors to school sites unless they are essential**.

Wherever possible, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.

Responding to COVID-19 cases

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.