



6 May 2020

Dear members of the Lindisfarne community,

### COVID-19 Update 12 from the Principal Phase 2 Return to School Plan

Thank you for your support during the first two weeks of Term 2. We continue to see progress made with flattening the COVID-19 curve but we must remain vigilant and support self isolation, social and physical distancing measures, high levels of personal hygiene and carefully monitor our own health and the health of those around us.

The Prime Minister has been very clear that schools are to remain open every day especially for children of those members of the community providing essential services or involved in employment at this time of National emergency. Schools are also open to any vulnerable children or to children of families needing the support of the School.

Whilst face-to-face attendance numbers at Lindisfarne slowly increases each day the School remains open for any children of families who need to attend school.

In accordance with the advice of the NSW Premier, the majority students have continued with remote learning for the first two weeks of Term 2, whether they are at home or attending school. Having successfully navigated **Phase 1** of our return to school plan I am pleased to advise that we now move to **Phase 2** of the plan. As of Monday, 11 May students in Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 11 and Year 12 will return to regular classes onsite, five days per week.

Students in Years 1 to 10 continue with online learning for Week 3.

A reminder that our return to school plan involves a series of phases that we feel at this stage are appropriate for our students but are subject to change if circumstances around COVID-19 restrictions and transmission change.

#### Phase 3 from Monday, 18 May 2020

For **Weeks 4 and 5** all students in **Years 1 to 10** are encouraged to return to school for face-to-face lessons for **two days each week**, with three days remaining online. To support family units and to monitor closely the number of students on campus, the School recommends:

- Monday and Tuesday — In school face-to-face lessons for Years 1 to 10 St Barnabas and St Cuthbert Houses.
- Wednesday — Online learning at home for Years 1 to 10.
- Thursday and Friday — In school face-to-face lessons for Years 1 to 10 St Andrew and St Stephen Houses.

Online learning continues for students not in attendance.

During **Weeks 4 and 5, Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 11 and Year 12** will continue their regular classes at school.

#### **Phase 4 from Monday, 1 June 2020**

From **Week 6** it is intended that **all students** would return to face-to-face lessons where possible for the remainder of the term although many activities will remain heavily restricted during this time.

The School will continue to support students unable to attend lessons due to self-isolation or parent decision through online instruction over the duration of Term 2. This will continue even when their cohort has resumed normal classes during Term 2.

The return to school for students will be supported by a number of measures to ensure we continue to do all we can to support COVID-19 containment, minimisation and mitigation. These measures include:

- Any students and staff with cold, flu-like symptoms and respiratory illness are to remain at home and seek medical advice. They are not to return to school until symptoms are resolved and medical advice has been sought.
- If any member of the school community is diagnosed with COVID-19 or is identified by any state or territory Health Department as a close contact of a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, they are to immediately advise the School, self quarantine, seek medical advice and follow all directions of the relevant Health and Government authorities. The School will do likewise.
- The School will commence monitoring of students' temperatures upon arrival at school to identify potential fever. Any student or staff member exhibiting signs of a fever will be sent home immediately and required to seek medical advice.
- Staggered break times with designated areas where possible for each year group will be implemented.
- Regular hand washing will be required throughout the school day with hand sanitiser available in classrooms and shared spaces.
- Additional and ongoing cleaning of school facilities and surfaces will be undertaken throughout the day.
- Restricted access for parents and visitors to both campuses of the School. Parents who choose to drop their children at school are asked to use the kiss and drop routine as far as possible except in exceptional circumstances where they must seek and follow the advice of staff.
- Preferably lunches will be brought to school, however, food can be pre-ordered from the respective canteens via [flexischools](#) and there will be no option to order direct or purchase from the canteen during the school day.
- All inter-school sports, assemblies, functions, events, excursions and other large gatherings remain suspended at this time.
- During all of Term 2 students, staff and all members of the school community will be expected to continue to rigorously adhere to self-isolation measures whenever they are not at school, work, seeking medical advice or purchasing food and necessities.
- Members of the School Community are asked to download the COVID Safe app providing they feel comfortable to do so.

The Lindisfarne inter-campus bus will continue to operate every day. Lindisfarne school buses will be operational from Week 3 and Surfside buses will continue to operate throughout the term. Where possible, parents are encouraged to drop their children directly to school.

Should the circumstances surrounding COVID-19 change over the coming weeks, the School will communicate any changes to this plan. To view an individual plan for each year group, please visit the [ConnectEd Online Learning site on this link](#).

The allocated days for a staggered return are to assist in reducing the number of students on-site each day, however, if you are an essential services worker or would prefer to send your children to school on alternate days that suit your work schedule, please email [studentadmin@lindisfarne.nsw.edu.au](mailto:studentadmin@lindisfarne.nsw.edu.au).

I understand there are some complexities with the plan but there will be time over the weeks ahead to absorb the information as we continue implementation of the plan.

As is our Lindisfarne way, we will remain agile, responsive and adaptable, and respond thoughtfully should changes or further adjustments be required in the weeks ahead.

Towards the end of Term 2, I will provide further advice in relation to school operations for Term 3 due to commence on Monday, 20 July 2020 where I hope we may have the opportunity to progress to Phase 5 of our plan and introduce a wider range of school activities.

As always if you have any questions, please contact your Head of Subschool or the Deputy Principal.

Thank you again for your continued support as we work together to successfully implement a return to school for our students.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Marquardt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stuart Marquardt  
**Principal**