



23 April 2020

Dear members of the Lindisfarne community,

COVID-19 Update 9 from the Principal - Return to School Plan

Thank you for your support through this time of great change for us all. It is heartening to see the 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.

As we navigate this difficult time in our community, given the daily decline in new and active cases of COVID-19 nationally and especially in our local area, we have commenced planning with cautious optimism, a staggered, restrictive and managed return to school. Whilst we continue to work together to halt COVID-19, we have also commenced planning to transition back from online learning to our school learning environment over time.

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 are low at present, the School remains open for any children of families who need to attend school.

In accordance with the advice of the NSW Premier, students will continue with remote learning for the first two weeks of Term 2, whether they are at home or attending school. Our Lindisfarne staff are busy preparing for delivery of remote, online and home-based learning during this time. After the first two weeks of term, Lindisfarne will be progressing a staggered, restrictive and managed return to school for the duration of Term 2.

Monday, 27 April 2020 and Tuesday, 28 April 2020 are pupil free days for staff planning. Term 2 commences for all students on **Wednesday, 29 April 2020** with the continuation initially of online, remote and home-based learning.

The School's plan will involve 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 1

All students from **Preschool to Year 12** will continue with online learning for **Weeks 1 and 2** of Term 2.

Phase 2

Students in **Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 11 and Year 12** will return to regular classes onsite, five days per week, from **Week 3** (Monday, 11 May 2020).

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

Phase 3

For **Weeks 4 and 5** (from Monday, 18 May 2020), 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 **Week 6** (Monday, 1 June 2020), 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 maintain responsible social distancing and hygiene throughout this transition. 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 for each year group will be implemented.
- Regular hand washing will be required throughout the school day and there will be availability of hand sanitisers 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.

The Lindisfarne inter-campus bus will continue from the first day of Term 2. 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. The table below provides a summary of the above information. To view an individual plan for each year group, please visit the [ConnectEd Online Learning site on this link](#).

	Weeks 1 and 2	Week 3	Weeks 4 and 5	Weeks 6 to 9
Monday	Online learning for Preschool to Year 12	Online learning (Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12)	Online learning (St Andrew & St Stephen House students in Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12, St Barnabas & St Cuthbert House students in Years 1 to 10)	Regular classes for all year groups
Tuesday	Online learning for Preschool to Year 12	Online learning (Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12)	Online learning (St Andrew & St Stephen House students in Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12, St Barnabas & St Cuthbert House students in Years 1 to 10)	Regular classes for all year groups
Wednesday	Online learning for Preschool to Year 12	Online learning (Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12)	Online learning (all students in Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12)	Regular classes for all year groups
Thursday	Online learning for Preschool to Year 12	Online learning (Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12)	Online learning (St Barnabas & St Cuthbert House students in Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12, St Andrew & St Stephen House students in Years 1 to 10)	Regular classes for all year groups
Friday	Online learning for Preschool to Year 12	Online learning (Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12)	Online learning (St Barnabas & St Cuthbert House students in Years 1 to 10) At school (Preschool, Kindergarten, Years 11 and 12, St Andrew & St Stephen House students in Years 1 to 10)	Regular classes for all year groups

The School remains open from the start of Term 2 and we will work with parents to ensure we can support all student and family circumstances. 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.

On first reading, the plan may appear complex but there will be time over the weeks ahead to absorb the information and commence 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 prepare for the term ahead.

Kind regards,



Stuart Marquardt
Principal