

Graduated Return to School Plan – Erindale College

Dear Students and Families

First of all, I would like to thank you for working with us to manage all of the changes to the way education has been delivered over the past couple of months. I appreciate that for many this has been a period of significant challenge, and for others it has been a welcome change to the model of traditional schooling. Whatever your personal circumstance, I thank you. I hope that the following information brings some much needed clarity to our community.

Returning to School

As you would be aware from the announcements last week, a staged return to school will occur for ACT public school students from Monday 18 May 2020.

Each ACT College will take their own approach to a return to on-campus learning based on the needs of their local community.

From **Monday 18 May 2020** students in **Years 11 & 12** are warmly welcomed back to the college, with **Year 10** to follow from **Monday 25 May 2020**. We will be reverting to our regular timetable once students resume their attendance at school. Our default position is that teachers will resume teaching from their classrooms from Monday 18 May, with some adjustments for those staff who, due to health and/or wellbeing reasons require a continuation of working remotely.

Whilst there is an expectation that all students will return to face to face learning, we appreciate that there will be some members of our school community whose vulnerability may require a continuation of learning remotely. **If you are intending on continuing to learn remotely, please advise the school by contacting erindalecollege.absences@ed.act.edu.au by Friday 15 May.**

Teaching and Learning

Teachers will continue to use Google Classroom as the main method of communicating messages and instructions to students, and students are encouraged to check in regularly for any new information. Students can also enable notifications on their phones so they receive an alert when new content is added.

For those classes that will continue to be delivered online, students are welcomed to attend these lessons at the college where they will be supervised to complete their work. Specific details about those classes will be communicated by their teachers this week.

For Year 10 students, each class will have one synchronous lesson where the teacher is online and two sessions where students will be required to work independently on work that has been set.

To manage any risks associated with student safety, those subjects with a high practical component using specialised equipment will be delivered face to face.

Academic support will continue to be offered to students through our Learning Hub to help mitigate any disruptions to learning. Students can access these services in the Professional Learning Space during school hours. If any student requires additional time to submit an assessment task, they should make a request direct to their class teacher. Length of extension/s will be negotiated consistent with Academy protocols.

Health and Hygiene

We remain focused on maintaining the best possible hygiene standards for staff and students. We have been working to ensure that we have enough hand sanitiser and soap, and we have increased our cleaning regime at the school. We have also increased signage to remind people about the importance of good hygiene. Basic hygiene, including good hand and respiratory hygiene measures, remains an effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We are encouraging both students and staff to remain on site only for their timetabled classes (or academic support) wherever practical.

Students who are unwell should not come to school. If a student presents at school and is exhibiting cold and/or flu symptoms, parents will be contacted and students will be asked to go home, and return once they are well.

Transport

Some parents have expressed their concern about their child's transport and overcrowding on buses. We encourage you to make contact directly with the transport provider for their plans to manage any of these issues. Unfortunately the school has little influence on the operation of transport. If your concern remains ongoing, please let us know and we will see if there is any way we can assist.

I thank you again for your patience, resilience and support throughout this pandemic. We are really excited to be able to have our students back in the classroom and look forward to seeing them. If you have any concerns, or would like to provide some feedback please don't hesitate to contact me at jessie.atkins@ed.act.edu.au

Many thanks

Jessie Atkins

Principal