



This guide is for parents and carers

A guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning

Information has been updated as at 19 May 2020, until further notice.



St George Girls High School

Return to Full-Time Face-to-Face Learning Guidelines for Students and Parents/Carers

This guide provides Department of Education (DoE) advice on how NSW schools will operate from **Monday 25 May 2020**.

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 (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should always 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.
- Avoiding physical contact with peers

School Routine from Monday 25 May

School will return back to the usual 2020 school timetable (including period 0), bell-times and rooming. All established school procedures and expectations will be operational, including:

- Early leave requests
- Late arrival slips
- Year 12 flexible attendance
- Uniform passes and infringements
- Explanation of absences
- Period 1 roll marking

School Uniform

Students must return to school in full winter uniform. However, due to the limited access to the uniform shop, students are permitted to wear summer uniform up until the end of Week 7. If a student is not wearing a SGGHS uniform item, they need to follow the existing procedures to obtain either a uniform pass or infringement.

Travelling on Public Transport

Travelling on public transport during this time will present challenges for students. Students should factor in additional travel time to ensure they arrive to school on time. The school will be flexible in recording lateness to school as a result of bus/train delays and the limited capacity due to physical distancing guidelines.



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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.

If parents believe that their child has a condition which means it is not safe for them to return to school, they will need to obtain a medical certificate and contact the school to advise that their child will not be returning back to school. These are likely to be children with suppressed immune systems or undergoing treatment like chemotherapy. In these cases, the school will continue to be responsible for providing work for students for the period they are prevented from being at school.

Teachers at SGGHS will be provided with a list of these students and will support them in learning from home during the period of their absence.

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

If your child is unwell, **DO NOT** send them to school. There is no expectation that they complete school work during this time. It is important that unwell students rest. It is the responsibility of the student to catch-up on any missed work upon their return to school.

If a student becomes unwell at school, parents/carers or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date on the school records.

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.

Reporting and Assessment

Students are expected to complete all scheduled assessment tasks as outlined in the Assessment Booklets and updated Term 2 calendar.

With students returning to full-time face-to-face learning some further amendments may be communicated in relation to the nature of scheduled tasks and due dates. Students are advised to always follow the information that is provided in the official assessment notification issued prior to each task.

Reporting to parents/carers will focus on the learning that has taken place so far this year during face-to-face teaching in Term 1 and the period of remote learning. This will include student's progress and achievements, as well as areas for development.

Semester 1 reports will be issued before the commencement of Term 3.



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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 students can do:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities (in PDHPE lessons and Friday school sport)
- Use the canteen

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers (SRE)
- Drink from a water bubbler or refill a water bottle from a refill
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online.

School Cleaning and Hygiene Supplies

All schools 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 topping up of supplies like soap.

All schools have received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment.

Safety and Hygiene Procedures

Physical distancing of students in schools is not required by the latest AHPPC guidelines. Research has shown limited transmission risk associated with school children in the school environment.

At SGGHS all student desks in classrooms and learning spaces will be arranged to leave as much space as possible between students.

Where possible, teachers may choose to conduct lessons outdoors to support physical distancing. The Hall will be set up with tables and chairs as an alternate learning space that can be booked as required.

Throughout the day teachers will encourage students to use disinfectant products to wipe down their own learning spaces after each lesson. All learning spaces will be provided with disinfected wipes to assist with this process.



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Hand sanitiser will be provided for all learning spaces and students will be encouraged to use this upon entry into the room.

Tissue supplies will also be available in all learning spaces. Students are also encouraged to bring their own personal supplies of tissues and hand sanitiser.

Teachers will seek to increase ventilation in learning spaces, e.g. keep the doors and windows open where practical.

Recess and lunch times will remain as per the timetable however, to limit mixing between Year groups during these break times, additional school spaces will be allocated for use by each Year group and supervised by teachers.

Students will not be permitted to use the bubblers or water refill stations at school as a further precautionary measure. Students will need to bring sufficient water from home for the day.

Ground markers have been placed in high traffic and queuing areas around the school, for example the Front Administration Office, Toilets, Canteen and Uniform Shop. Additional signage has been placed around the school to reinforce key health and hygiene messaging to students and staff.

School Grounds

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

Teachers will communicate with parents/carers via telephone, email or virtually as required.

Parents/carers will only be permitted on school grounds if the school requests a face-to-face parent/career meeting for any essential or urgent matters. In this case, meetings will be conducted in line with physical distancing requirements.

The canteen and uniform shop will be operational with physical distancing measures in place, including ground markers.

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. The Department of Education (DoE) continues to work closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.