



Dear Parents and Carers

I'm excited to welcome all our staff and students to Term 3. As we start the new school term, it's important to acknowledge the COVID-19 pandemic is continuing and this will be reflected in the way our school operates in Term 3.

On the advice of the Chief Health Officer, the ACT Government has paused its easing of restrictions and as a result we will remain at Step 2.2 of the COVID-19 Easing of Restrictions Roadmap for Schools until health advice changes. The Roadmap is attached to this email for your information.

Restrictions in ACT public schools will remain as they were during the last two weeks of Term 2:

- Students across all years will continue with on-campus learning.
- Students vulnerable to COVID-19 will continue to be supported with remote learning.
- Schools will continue to limit the number of adults on school grounds – parents and carers should avoid entering the school building where possible.
- Where scheduled events are planned (such as one on one parent-teacher interviews and small assemblies) parents can attend the school, However, where possible parents and carers are encouraged to avoid entering school grounds and should make an appointment where possible.
- Records will be kept of visitors entering the school, all parents/carers and visitors are required to sign in at the front office.

We will keep you informed of any changes to the easing of restrictions and what they will mean for our school.

Cleaning of high frequency touch points such as door handles will continue across the school both during the day and out of school hours, and we will continue to provide sufficient soap, paper towel and hand sanitiser for students and staff.

The ACT Government has introduced mandatory public health directions which require ACT residents to self-isolate for 14 days if they have travelled to Victoria and three specific locations in New South Wales (the Crossroads Hotel in Casula between 3-10 July, Planet Fitness in Casula between 4-10 July, the Picton Hotel in Picton on 4, 5, 9 or 10 July or West Leagues Club in Campbelltown between 8pm to midnight on Friday 10 July, and between midnight to 2.30am on Sunday 12 July).

You can find more information and updates on the ACT Government [COVID-19 web page](#).

- *ACT residents will be able to return home, but they will be required to enter quarantine until 14 days after leaving Victoria (this includes children), and must notify ACT Health of their intention to return.*
- *Also, with an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases linked to the clusters in south-west Sydney in recent days, from 12 noon today (16 July 2020) anyone who has been in an affected location will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days after their departure. This will be legally required even if you do not have symptoms.*

- *People who visited these locations on the specified dates are asked to get in contact with ACT Health through the COVID-19 Helpline on 02 6207 7244 so we can support individuals through their quarantine. These people are also encouraged to get tested for COVID-19, even if they have no symptoms.*

If your child/children have been in any of these locations, you will need to follow the health advice and self-isolate for the required period. Please contact the school to let us know if your child won't be attending school.

We understand that this is a challenging time for our school community and that children may experience increased anxiety. It's important we all take time to focus on our wellbeing and the wellbeing of our families during this time. The Education Directorate has compiled a range of useful wellbeing resources for students and families which can be accessed via this [link](#).

If you have any questions, please speak with your child's teacher in the first instance.

We thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to ensure our schools are safe places for our staff and students.

Regards

Jacqui Chapman
Acting Principal
Gold Creek School