

Maitland High School



Welcome Back Year 8!

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Acknowledgement of Country

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Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the Wonnarua people who are the original custodians of this land.

I would also like to pay my respects to Elders, both past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present today.



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As you may have heard by now, Year 8 students return to school fulltime from Week 4 (Monday 25 October). After 9 weeks 'Learning from Home' you finally get a chance to return to face-to-face learning and see all of your friends again.

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You will be returning with Years 7, 9, 10 & 11 under Level 3 Plus COVID-19 Restrictions.

Year 12 2021 returned to school this week and will sit their HSC Written Exams from Tuesday 9 November.

After 45 days 'Learning from Home' , we are so happy to welcome you back to Maitland High School.

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What we'll be covering this meeting:

- COVID-safe practices at our school
- Vaccinations
- Cohort areas
- Where to find out more
- Questions and answers



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COVID-safe operations for schools

Department preschools,
Kindergarten & Year 1

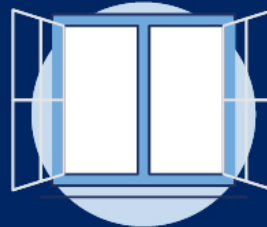
18

October

All other years

25

October



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Vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccination is the best protection against severe illness and also reduces the risk of spreading it to others.

All staff required on site supporting the return to school will need to be fully vaccinated from 18 October.



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Keeping Student Groups Together

As we return to school students will be kept in their cohort to minimise opportunities for transmission of COVID-19 and to enable effective contact tracing and containment.

This means minimising interaction between students on school grounds and keeping cohorts together where possible.



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What does this mean for Year 8?



Level 3 Plus COVID-19 Restrictions

When you arrive at school please go directly to the allocated area of your year group:

| Year Group | Location |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7 | Year 7 Quad |
| 8 | Basement/Area in front of the MPC |
| 9 | Basketball Courts/Area alongside of the MPC |
| 10 | Main Quad |
| 11 | Front of the School |
| 12 | Year 7 Passive Area |
| Specialist Support Unit | Main Quad under the shade sails |

Before School





Level 3 Plus COVID-19 Restrictions

When you arrive at school please go directly to the allocated area of your year group:

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|-------------------------|---|
| 7 | Year 7 Quad |
| 8 | Basement/Area in front of the MPC |
| 9 | Basketball Courts/Area alongside of the MPC |
| 10 | Main Quad |
| 11 | Front of the School |
| 12 | Year 7 Passive Area |
| Specialist Support Unit | Main Quad under the shade sails |





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Before School – Wet Weather



| Year Group | Location | Wet Weather (Before School) |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 7 | Year 7 Quad | Hall |
| 8 | Basement/Area in front of the MPC | Basement |
| 9 | Basketball Courts/Area alongside of the MPC | MPC – Pierce Street side |
| 10 | Main Quad | MPC – Top Oval side |
| 11 | Front of the School | MPC – Bleachers |
| 12 | Year 7 Passive Area | Library |
| Specialist Support Unit | Main Quad under the shade sails | Support Unit classrooms |

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Between classes

Throughout the day, Years 7, 9 & 11 will leave 5 minutes early accompanied by their teacher to their designated area. Between periods, a Deputy Principal will meet with these year groups and direct them class in an orderly manner.



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Break times



| Year Group | Location |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7 | Year 7 Quad |
| 8 | Basement/Area in front of the MPC |
| 9 | Basketball Courts/Area alongside of the MPC |
| 10 | Main Quad |
| 11 | Front of the school/ <u>Minibah</u> |
| 12 | Year 7 Passive Area |
| Specialist Support Unit | Main Quad under the shade sails. |



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IMPORTANT – The Canteen COLA will only be open to students accessing the Canteen or toilets during break times. It will be marked to designate areas for each year group, allowing teachers on duty to direct students to the Canteen in cohorts, and to physically distance, as well as monitor congregation and mingling around the toilets.



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End of the day

At the end of the school day, teachers of Year 7, 9 & 11 will once again accompany students back to their areas and remain supervising students until the end of the school day. Students will then move off to their chosen gates, with students waiting for buses in allocated cohort areas.



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Hunter Street (Year 7 Quad)



Hunter Street (Year 7 Quad)

| Year Group | Location | Supervision |
|------------|---|---|
| 7 | Year 7 COLA | As per 'Faculty Rotational Roster'. Bus Duty and Head Teacher of the day. |
| 8 | Behind the Year 7 Quad COLA on ' <u>Christmas</u> ' side | |
| 9 | In front of the Year 7 Quad COLA nearest to the teacher with the microphone | |
| 10 | Behind the Year 7 Quad COLA on the 'Waterhouse' side. | |
| 11 | Year 7 Passive Area | |
| 12 | Year 7 Passive Area | |

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High Street



High Street (Front of School)

| Year Group(s) | Location | Supervision |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 7, 8 and 9 | In front of the veranda 'A' Alpha. | As per 'Faculty Rotational Roster'. Bus Duty and Head Teacher of the day. |
| 10, 11 & 12 | In front of the Library. | |

Mask wearing for students and staff



Masks

Masks will be required indoors for all staff and students

Year 7 and above and masks are strongly recommended indoors for primary school students.

Students should bring their own masks where possible, but schools will have back-up supplies just in case. Masks are also required for all travel on public transport for children 13 year and older.



Tips on wearing a mask



Children can wear small cloth or surgical masks when leaving home, including going to school



You can remove your mask when eating or exercising

Try not to touch your face while wearing your mask



Use a clean mask every day.
Do not reuse single-use masks



Wash and dry reusable masks after use and store in a clean, dry place

Wash or sanitise your hands before putting on or taking off your mask



Updated mask requirements 15/10/21

To reflect the changes in community settings mask wearing requirements have been updated for schools.

When students and staff return to school, the following requirements are in place:

- Masks are required for all staff and students in Year 7 and above in all indoor settings



Updated mask requirements 15/10/21



Masks are mandatory on public transport. This applies to students aged 13 years and over, and to staff when travelling to and from school and during school excursions by public transport or by chartered or private transport services.

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Ventilation

Having open or well-ventilated spaces reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 because infectious particles are more quickly diffused in the open air.



School Activities

During Term 4 many school-based activities will remain on hold until NSW Health advise otherwise.

This includes large celebrations like assemblies, presentation days and graduations, arts and sports events. If NSW Health advice changes, then we will let you know about changes as soon as possible.



Other changes

The following rooms will not operate as we are used to under Level 3 Plus Restrictions:

- Library (Year 12 only)
- TLC (The Learning Centre)
- Wellbeing Centre
- ATR (Aboriginal Tutorial Room)
- Breakfast Club (to return in 2022)



These supports are still available, but must be requested through your Deputy Principal.

If your Deputy Principal is not in their office 'Request Slips' can be collected and completed via the Front Office.

The Wellbeing Team will also be supporting students missing access to the library and sport at breaktimes through the creation of 'cohort bubbles'.



Cohort Bubbles

A 'cohort bubble' is a group of students in the same year group with similar interests, for example: sport or computer games.

By completing a 'cohort bubble' request, a member of the Wellbeing Team will try to schedule an activity for your 'cohort bubble' during break times.

All request forms are available through the Front Office or from your Deputy Principal.



SPORT

Under Level 3 Plus COVID-19 Restrictions, Sport will remain at school and operate in classes only. No combined classes or whole cohorts.

Students will remain in their same class for Sport. They will complete:

- Wellbeing Activity'
- Interest Activity or Project
- Sport Session.



Further information and questions

Parents and students will be notified if a decision is made to close the school due to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

During this time we will continue to provide learning from home activities and we will let you know when we can return to face-to-face learning via email, Skool Bag App and Facebook.



Further information and questions

Find updated information on the department's Advice for families page to support students who are anxious about the return to school – or get in touch with us directly.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>



We cannot wait to see you next week!

