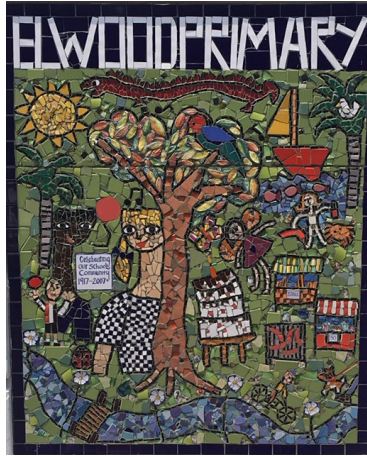


# WELCOME BACK EPS!



As on-site schooling resumes next week, we will continue to make sure we have strong measures to protect the health and safety of students, staff, families and the community in place. This includes identifying drop off and pick up zones for each year level, restricting access to school grounds and a continued emphasis on hand hygiene and physical distancing where possible.

## **Drop offs:**

All students need to be dropped off from various points from 8:45am – 9:00am each day. Students can remain in the yard until 8:50am to play and catch up with friends and teachers and head into class for Soft Starts as directed by their classroom teacher, or head into class from the music and bell time. Teachers will be on Yard Duty as usual in the mornings from 8:45am.

We would love all students to be in class and ready to go by 9:00am!

## **Pick ups:**

All students will be dismissed at 3:30pm and picked up from various points.

## **Gates & various points for drop offs and pick ups:**

Prep C, M & R – from the double gates on Poet's Grove nearest to the portables and shed.

Prep P & S (DWB) - from gate on corner of Mitford/Scott St round-about

Grade 1s (JLC) - 1J, 1A, 1T and 1L from the double gates near dumper on Poet's Grove

- 1N & 1DS from the gate on Poet's Grove/Mitford Street nearest the stage

Grade 2s (DWB) - From the path in the park

Grade 3s – From the Scott Street Gates looking over the courtyard

Grade 4s (Portables) - From double gates on Poet's Grove nearest to the Grade 4 portables

Grades 5 & 6 – From the Scott Street Gates/courtyard.

*We ask you to help us and give particular attention to reducing the risks associated with congregation at school gates and taking steps to contribute to physical distancing at both drop off and pick up. Access to school grounds is limited to school staff, students attending on-site learning and our contractors, including cleaners and maintenance workers.*

- avoid gathering in a group inside or around the school



- keep 1.5m wherever possible between yourself and other adults



You will notice all staff wearing masks when outside, moving around the school, on Yard Duty and greeting you at the gates. Teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can.

Parents and carers are required to wear face masks whenever they leave the house, including for school drop-off and pick-up.



All students are expected to attend on site as of next week.

Exceptions may exist for medically vulnerable students. It is recommended that parents/carers of students with complex medical needs seek advice from the student's medical practitioner to support decision-making about whether on-site education is suitable.

Schools are not expected to provide remote and flexible learning where parents or carers of students elect to keep their child at home, except where this is based on medical advice.

EPS will be focused on three key priorities in Term 4 as outlined by The Department of Education:

### **Mental health and wellbeing**

Our highest priority will be the wellbeing, particularly the mental health, of every student and member of staff. This means effectively mobilising all available resources to support our most vulnerable students and enabling staff to access the relevant support services.

### **Learning and excellence**

Some of our students have thrived in the remote and flexible learning environment, others have maintained their learning progress and some may have fallen behind, despite their best efforts and those of their families and teachers. Our priority will be supporting both those who need it to catch up and those who have progressed to continue to extend their learning.

### **Transitions**

We will make every effort to ensure successful transitions for children moving from kindergarten into Prep and our Grade 6s moving into Year 7.

We know some families are worried that their child may have to repeat a year due to the disruptions of coronavirus (COVID-19). There is little evidence to support the benefits of repeating a year to catch up. We will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs.

Parents, families and carers can be confident that the best option for almost every child is to stay with their peer group, whether that is moving from kindergarten into Prep, moving from Grade 6 into Year 7 at secondary school, or students moving up any year level in between.

Working in partnership with each other, EPS has shown it can be flexible and adaptable in responding to the challenges of coronavirus (COVID-19) and we will continue to meet student needs as we look towards the end of the 2020 school year and ahead to 2021.