



25 January 2021

Dear RJ Community,

New Update (No.21/1) regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19)

I am excited to welcome everyone back to the start of the new school year for 2021 and hope you have had some quality time with family and friends over the holiday period. I extend a special welcome to all our new families commencing their RJ journey this year, whether at our Oakhurst or Marsden Park Campus, and trust the year ahead will be a wonderful year for you all. Be assured that our staff teams are here to assist you and your children in whatever way we can to settle in.

With the recent release of revised guidelines from NSW Health and the NSW Government, and the need to provide a safe learning environment for our RJ students, the following is an update of our management of COVID protocols at RJ.

Please take the time to read the information provided below and discuss these with your children prior to the start of school. Many of the guidelines from the end of last year remain in place.

Personal Hygiene

Students are required to engage in good personal hygiene practices as part of our ongoing safety measures which include:

- the regular washing of hands with soap.
- coughing or sneezing into their elbow or a tissue (which should be disposed of immediately).
- avoiding the sharing of food and drinks.
- engaging in non-contact greetings (eg. elbow taps, no hugging or shaking hands etc).
- (Secondary students only) having their own personal hand sanitiser to use at School.

Please note: Hand sanitiser is available across both campuses for all Primary and Secondary classrooms for application under the supervision of teachers.

Our campus changeroom facilities will remain closed. On days where a student has a timetabled practical PDHPE class, PASS class or sports training, they should wear their RJ sports uniform with appropriate footwear (refer to the Student Presentation and Uniform Policy) to and from School. However, for the first full day of School, students should wear their normal RJ day uniform.

Face Masks

Staff, students and parents are not required to wear a face mask while at School. However, students must comply with the [Public Health \(COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings\) Order 2021](#) when travelling to and from School via public transport. To be clear, face masks are not required for Marsden Park Campus students using the RJ Bus Services.

Student Attendance

All students are required to attend School unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to School due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe.
- they are unwell or are following self-isolation requirements. (Parents should follow the normal process of notifying the School should their child be unwell or absent from School and provide a satisfactory explanation for the absence).



Students who are Unwell and COVID-19 Testing

Families and students should all be aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 which include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of taste and loss of smell, fatigue, runny nose, muscle pain, joint pain, headache, diarrhea, nausea/vomiting and loss of appetite.

Anyone with the symptoms of COVID-19, even if these symptoms are mild, should not be at School.

This includes parents, staff and students. Those with flu-like symptoms will need to be tested for COVID-19 by their local doctor or at one of the [COVID-19 Clinics](#) as soon as possible and provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to School.

Evidence of the negative test result must be emailed to:

- For students in Years K-12 at the Oakhurst Campus: email result to Mrs Peita Champion pchampion@rjas.nsw.edu.au (Student Reception/First Aid Officer)
- For students in PreK-6 at the Marsden Park Campus: email result to Mrs Kathy Du Toit kdutoit@rjas.nsw.edu.au (Campus Reception/Administration Officer)

If students become unwell while at School, parents will be contacted to make arrangements for their child to be picked up as soon as possible.

Parents on-site at RJ

Unfortunately at this time, parents and carers are not permitted on-site except for the following reasons:

- Picking up their child if they are unwell.
- Dropping off students for PreK, Kindy, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 7 for their first day. This will also be extended to other NEW Primary students (Years 3-6) from either campus for their first day. ***Drop off and pick up information for this Term will be sent out to families by our Head of Primary (Oakhurst) and Asst Principal/Head of Primary (Marsden Park) respectively.***
- Dropping off or collecting Marsden Park Campus students who are using the RJ Bus Service via the Oakhurst Campus. The Operations Manager will communicate with the relevant families regarding expectations.
- Dropping off or collecting Marsden Park Campus students from Norwest Community Childcare (OOSH)
- Essential parent and carer meetings with teachers and/or school executives with a scheduled appointment. That is, an appointment has been made in advance.
- Volunteering in educational support roles (as approved by the Acting Principal).
- Attending parent orientation/information meetings as advertised to the School Community. Please note: some Information Sessions will be conducted via the 'Zoom' online platform. Parents will be notified in due course.
- Attending P&F meetings held after school hours.

As parents are not allowed to attend Primary Assemblies for class items or presentations, these will be filmed. A video link on Seesaw will be provided and communicated to parents by the class teacher. Parents will be able to view these at a convenient time simply by clicking on the link provided.



School Activities

The following School activities currently remain unchanged and can continue:

- Primary and Secondary Assemblies.
- Secondary Chapels.
- Inter-house sport.
- House Meetings.
- All interschool sport activities including interschool sport outside of the local community area, Gala Days and Zone carnivals.
- Immunisation programs (Term 1 – Year 7).
- Swimming Carnival (Thursday 4 February) & K-2 Swim Days.
- Camps, Incursions and Excursions (Term 1 Camps – Year 5, 6, 7 and 11).
- Face-to-face learning activities at TAFE.
- VET Work Placements can proceed subject to availability.
- All creative arts activities including singing, musical activities, dance and drama (following safe health practices).

Unfortunately, parents are unable to attend school events including carnivals and assemblies at this time.

As you can appreciate, it is the desire of the School Executive Team to promote interactions across our wonderful School Community as best we can and in keeping within the intention of the guidelines provided to us to minimise the potential spread of COVID-19 in the general community. As such, we will commit to keeping you informed of any changes to events or activities that may be implicated by changing guidelines from NSW Health and NSW Government as they occur.

Over the past year, we have been very grateful for the good health and safety that our School Community has been blessed with during the onset of the Pandemic. We offer praise to the Lord Jesus for the blessings on our School community and continue to pray for His protection of our staff, students and their respective families.

Let's continue to *'Trust in the Lord'* together.

Kind regards

Mr Alan Dawson | **Acting Principal**