



BLACKTOWN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

A Partially Selective Girls High School

Fifth Avenue
PO Box 6009
Blacktown 2148
T 02 9831 7577
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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

As of week 3, beginning on Monday May 11th we will commence the gradual return to school process.




Thank you for your support of your daughters learning and for the many emails and calls of support for the school. The capacity of students, school teams and parents to adapt and the strength and resilience displayed has been impressive.

Last week, the Premier announced that NSW Department of Education Schools will phase in the return of students to school during the term although learning will remain online. She has stated that approximately one quarter of the students will be present on site in government schools from Week 3 (Monday 11th May, 2020).

The advice from the NSW and Federal Governments and health authorities is that the risk of transmission of COVID-19 between school students is slight. However, the safety of students and staff is vital, as such the following process for the return of students has been agreed:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Phase 1	Phase 1	Phase 1	Phase 1	Phase 1
Yr 12 + Chisholm YR 7-11 Blue House	Yr 12 + Fraser YR 7-11 Green House	All STUDENTS ONLINE (SCHOOL OPERATES FOR SELECT STUDENTS)	Yr 12 + Reibey YR 7-11 Red House	Yr 12 + Oodgerro YR 7-11 Yellow House

It is important to note that this is the plan as at 30 April and we will adapt our approach as the government advises easing or tightening restrictions. At this point we cannot determine the time frame for phase 1, we will advise you as soon as we become aware that we will move into Phase 2. The phase 2 plans will involve:

PHASE 2		
MONDAY & TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY & FRIDAY
		
Phase 2 Blue & Green Houses	Phase 2 Online	Phase 2 Red & Yellow Houses
Yr 12 + Chisholm YR 7-11 Blue House	All STUDENTS ONLINE (SCHOOL OPERATES FOR SELECT STUDENTS)	Yr 12 + Reibey YR 7-11 Red House
Yr 12 + Fraser YR 7-11 Green House		Yr 12 + Oodgerro YR 7-11 Yellow House

Making a difference in the education of young women

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When the NSW Premier announces that we are entering Phase 3 we will have all students back on site and online learning will not be an option except in exceptional circumstances and through direct negotiation with the school principal. Phase 3 will include:

PHASE 3



Monday – Friday

Students at school five days per week, with social distancing measures.

- Students with increased health risks may continue to learn at home to suit their individual needs.
- No excursions or inter-school activities will take place.
- Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements.
- Support your child/children to continue to learn at home if they are required to learn remotely.
- Communicate with your school via email and phone wherever possible.
- Follow the health advice and keep your child/children at home if they are unwell.

When we reach Phase 4 school and learning return to normal, all school services and facilities are in full operational mode.

PHASE 4



Monday – Friday

Students at school five days per week, with full school activities.

- Send your child/children to school every day.
- Participate in school excursions and inter-school activities.
- Use playground equipment and school facilities as per normal.
- Drop your child/children off at school as you would normally do.
- Participate in school based activities, parent information sessions, meetings etc
- Use services that usually operate at your school like canteens and other community run activities.

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We will also take this opportunity to make some points that may clarify other concerns:

- Families can send siblings to school for supervision on any day, even if their House group is still online learning.
- Once we enter Phase 4 online learning will not be offered for students.
- During Phase 0 – 3 some areas of the playground will be designated for different year groups and no large gatherings or meetings will be held if physical distancing guidelines cannot be met.
- During Phase 0 – 3 we will be asking parents to stay away from the school to manage social distancing between adults as recommended. Any reason to enter the grounds will need to be done via appointment by contacting the school office on 98317577. This procedure will be in place until the government lifts restrictions for indoor gatherings for adults.
- Where possible, your child will have her usual teacher.
- Bus and train services will continue to operate.
- The school canteen will operate as of week 3.
- The uniform shop will operate as of week 3.
- School Sport Competitions have been cancelled for out of school competitions but the PDHPE faculty are offering sport activities in new formats to meet social distancing guidelines.
- Students **must not** be sent to the school for supervision or face-to-face learning if they are unwell. In such circumstances your daughter **must** stay home from school, you must contact the school to let us know your daughter is ill and if presenting at school will be sent home, if she:
 - is unwell, particularly with a cough, fever, sore throat or other respiratory symptoms
 - has travelled overseas within the last 14 days
 - has had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19
 - has a confirmed case of COVID-19
 - is awaiting the results of a test for COVID-19

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact the school.

Kind regards

The Leadership team
Blacktown Girls High School

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