



GUIDELINES FOR ST HURMIZD ASSYRIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

# STUDENTS RETURNING TO FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING



# A GUIDE TO ST HURMIZD ASSYRIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS RETURNING TO FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING

Dear Parents and Community,

Great News! We are so excited to have our boys and girls return to St Hurmizd for full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May.

As you know from our response to every new stage and development of the COVID-19 pandemic, every decision we make is based on the very best interests of our St Hurmizd family.

NSW has done a great job of reducing the spread of COVID-19 and there is a growing sense of safety and security which has led to a gradual loosening of restrictions in the state. We now feel it is safe for our students and staff to return to campus and this belief is supported by our School Board and leadership team.

Fortunately, we had our detailed weekly Return to Campus Safety plan already well-developed for this moment. This plan will simply be brought forward, with a few alterations.

Thank you for your flexibility and for the trust you have demonstrated in us as we navigate carefully and thoughtfully through these challenging times.

We look forward to seeing your children back at St Hurmizd next week, Monday 25th May.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Benjamin Khoshabeh

Principal



#### SCHOOLS ARE SAFE AND OPEN FOR FULL-TIME FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING

St Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School is returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable. School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

#### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition.
- They are currently unwell. Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school. If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact our school.

## REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT

Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school. You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of June (week 9, Term 2). This may be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. At the end of Term 2, teachers will also be calling parents to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.

#### **SCHOOL GROUNDS**

There should be no visitors to our school unless they are essential. Wherever possible, P&F and parent/carer/teacher meetings will be conducted virtually. Canteen will be open.



#### **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

## What children can do:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- Partake in co-curricular activities like chess and music

#### What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Drink from a water bubbler bring a water bottle instead

#### SCHOOL CLEANING AND HYGIENE SUPPLIES

Our School has received and continues to receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap. Our School has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment.

#### DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

We will continue with alternative drop off and pick up procedures to ensure we do our best to keep social distancing measures in place:

INFANTS	PRIMARY
<ul><li>Drop Off Time: 8.45am - 9.00am</li><li>Pick Up Time: 3.15pm - 3.30pm</li></ul>	<ul><li>Drop Off Time: 8.30am - 8.45am</li><li>Pick Up Time: 3.00pm - 3.15pm</li></ul>

Parents are reminded to not enter the classroom and to not congregate on school grounds. Parents wanting to discuss their child's learning needs with the classroom teacher are to do so via email or phone conversation.

Our school private bus service is operational for parents who need it.

#### **RESPONDING TO COVID-19 CASES**

There is a clear plan in place for our school to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.



#### **FAQs**

#### Why is the phased return being replaced?

Since commencing the managed return to the classroom on May 11, there has been a strong degree of confidence from school communities in managing COVID-19 and a clear desire for all students to be back at school.

Schools and students are expected to adhere to the health advice and guidelines which combined with increased cleaning in schools, access to hygiene supplies and compliance with hygiene practices across each campus health advice confirms face to face teaching is safe.

#### How is physical distancing being managed at school?

Physical distancing is still important.

In the classroom, physical distancing is focused on minimising contact. Desks are arranged normally but staff are making use of the space in a room to minimise interaction.

Teachers and other staff must maintain the 1.5m distance from each other and minimise close contact with students. Teachers and parents and carers must also maintain the 1.5m distance from each other

The following physical distancing measures will also remain in place until further notice:

- no interschool competitions
- no excursions
- staggered pick up and drop off times.
- limits on community use of our school site
- physical education will continue, but will take place outdoors and in covered areas where physical distancing can be maintained.
- distancing markers on school grounds.

#### What health and hygiene practices are our school implementing?

Resources have been provided to assist teachers to talk about COVID-19 and explain good hygiene practices. This includes reminding students to:

- wash their hands frequently with soap and water before and after eating and after going to the toilet.
- cover their nose and mouth when they cough or sneeze.
- avoid touching their faces.
- limit physical contact when greeting people.
- limit physical contact in the playground.
- additional provisions of soap and hygiene supplies, such as hand sanitiser.
- events like assemblies, excursions, school camps and inter-school sports and arts events have been cancelled.

# What happens if there is a confirmed case of COVID in my child's school?

When someone known to have been on site tests positive, the school becomes non-operational and a special environmental clean is carried out. The Principal will be provided with a clearance certificate.



#### Will the school be notified if there is a confirmed case in a school?

If your child or any other household member receives a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, please advise the school.

The school will be informed of confirmed cases of COVID-19 if the person has been attending the school during the period they may have been infectious. Relevant protocols as advised by the NSW Ministry of Health will be followed. The decision to inform the rest of the school and any other members of the school community will be made case by case, depending on whether there has been close contact with any person(s) at the school.

All other confirmed cases are a personal matter for those involved and they will be managed directly by NSW Health. People assessed as being a 'close contact' of a member of the community are identified and contacted by NSW Health and given appropriate advice. The Principal will be informed.

#### Is it safe for students with significant medical needs to be at school?

NSW Health advises that parents of students who may be at increased risk if they contract COVID-19 because they have a specific medical condition may wish to seek advice from their health care team about any specific risks, discuss these with school and review current health care plans.