



NARELLAN VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Waterworth Drive, Narellan, NSW, 2567
Postal Address: P.O.Box 3156 Narellan, 2567
Ph: (02)4647 5291
Fax: (02)4647 4507
Website: www.narellanva-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Email: narellanva-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

27 January 2021

Welcome Back to 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

We hope that you enjoyed the holiday season and we are looking forward to welcoming back all of our students for 2021. We would also like to officially welcome the students, families and staff of our newly established support Unit. All students in Years 1-6 are required to return to school on **Friday 29th January**. Please find below some information to help you prepare for your child's return to school. Please note this includes arrangements in line with current COVID-19 guidelines, however, as the situation changes this may impact organisations. We thank everyone in advance for understanding when plans need to change, we will endeavour to keep information accessible and up-to-date.

2021 Class Organisation:

We are currently finalising class structures and are awaiting any late enrolments and updating students who have left. At this stage, students will move into their new classes on Tuesday 2 February 2021. All students will remain in their 2020 classes and where possible with their 2020 classroom teachers on Friday and Monday.

On the first day back Friday 29th January, students are to line up on Area A in their 2020 classes.

The new year brings an exciting time with new teachers and new classes, and we encourage all our students and parents to see the opportunity in this change as a chance for growth and building resilience as we manage this exciting change. In our student's lives they are going to have to manage many changes and the change in class is an opportunity to embrace change and encourage our students to take change in their stride.

Dropping off arrangements Years 1 & 2 and New Families ONLY:

Parents who have students in Year 1 & 2 may enter the school grounds to drop off their child and then should leave promptly after saying goodbye to their child to help us comply with COVID-19 guidelines. At all times on school grounds, please maintain social distancing. Department guidelines will only allow parents on-site to drop off for the first few days. **From Wednesday 3 February parents will be asked to drop their child off at the school gates (Kindergarten parents will be informed of additional arrangements in a separate letter).**

All Year 1 & 2 parents who enter the school grounds will be required to scan in using the Service NSW App/ QR Code located on all school gates. This is a requirement to enter the school grounds.

Pick up Arrangements Years 1-6 at 3pm:

Parents are asked to wait outside the three school gates (Front, Back and Area D) at 3pm. Please discuss with your child which gate they will leave from (Kindergarten parents will be informed of additional arrangements in a separate letter).

Swimming Carnival Years 3-6:

The swimming carnival will be held on **Monday 1 February 2021**. Students who paid by the end of year cut off date will be the only students attending. No payments can be accepted this year. **Parents are unable to attend the event.** This is in adherence to the venues COVID-19 guidelines. All students will be arriving and departing by bus. No students are able to leave the pool early and must return back to school by bus.

Year 3-6 students not attending the carnival will remain at school in their 2020 classes.

Canteen:

Congratulations to Fresh Start Canteens for their successful tender application as our new canteen provider. Fresh Start will be available to provide school lunches and recess from Friday 29 January. Please find the ordering process and menu in the attached documents.

Current COVID Guidelines:

All schools continue to provide full-time on-campus learning for students. Updated health advice and changes to state and national restrictions allow schools to recommence the majority of school-based activities in a COVID safe way.

The following principles underpin these guidelines:

- Schools continue to be safe and their operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines.
- All students should be learning on-campus unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.
- Infection control protocols at schools, and the health and safety measures in place will help maintain the health and safety of students and staff.
- All activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate.
- Schools continue to monitor and plan for any changes in local circumstances that may arise, including changes in health advice or local restrictions.
- Principals need to make decisions based on the information provided and with the safety of students and the school community as the highest priority.
- The guidelines include the following key information:
 - Staff and students are not required to wear a face mask while at school. Anyone who wishes to wear their own masks in schools will not be prevented from doing so.
 - Wearing a face mask is not mandatory for parents and carers visiting schools provided they are visiting only for the explicit reasons provided and maintain physical distancing and hygiene practices while at school.
 - ***All visitors must sign the external visitors form each time they visit the school regardless of the frequency and duration of the visit. Visitors will also be required to check in using the Service NSW QR Code which is located on all school gates and administration office.***
 - NSW Health advised that communal water fountains and/or bubblers in NSW schools can now be turned on. These facilities can remain operational, closing only if there is transmission of COVID-19 in the community. Students are still encouraged to bring water bottles from home that they can refill when needed.

School Attendance:

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 and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. NSW Health has requested that schools encourage anyone who

is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

Students and staff with flu-like symptoms will need to be tested and provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free before being permitted to return to school.

Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test will not be permitted to return to school for a 10-day period. Additionally, they must be symptom-free for at least 3 days prior to returning to school.

Students who have seasonal allergic rhinitis or another condition that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms are still required to get tested for COVID-19 and return a negative test result. Where their symptoms continue beyond 10 days, students should provide documentation from their GP confirming their symptoms are typical for their condition. If the student develops new or changed symptoms, they should get tested for COVID-19.

COVID-19 testing for students with complex health or disability may be challenging. In these situations, schools will ask the parent or carer to have their child assessed by their medical practitioner. Where a medical practitioner determines that a COVID-19 test is not required, documentation must be provided to the school to confirm that the student does not have symptoms that warrant a COVID-19 test. The certificate must also indicate that the student is able to return to school.

Further information can be found at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

Change of Details/ Medical Conditions:

If you have recently changed any details, including phone number, emergency contacts, custody documents, address etc. please see the office to update student records. This includes updating the office with any current emergency action plans for any medical conditions.

Uniform Shop:

The Uniform Shop will be open this Friday 29th January from 10:00am to 12:30pm, appointments served first and walk ins and collections from 12:30pm-1:00pm. Next Tuesday 2nd February, the shop will be open from 11:30am-3:30pm.

We once again thank our community for adhering to the COVID 19 guidelines. We look forward to welcoming everybody back and look forward to a successful and exciting year of learning. Our first edition of Narellan Vale News will be published Friday 5th February, in this edition we will outline 2021 staff and classes.

Kind regards

Ms Michelle Sarjana

Principal