



Ironbark Ridge Public School

Cnr Ironbark Ridge Rd & Withers Rd, Rouse Hill, NSW, 2155.
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www.facebook.com/IronbarkRidgePublicSchool



Nurturing personal growth through inspired learning...

Wednesday 6th May, 2020.

Dear parents and carers,

We approach the exciting return to Ironbark Ridge of our students during our incremental return to school. I am attaching all previously released brochures and information again for you just in case you have misplaced them. Extra detail has been included below, including our 'Priority list' for guidance. Apologies if much of this is a re-read for many of you but... good to be all on the same page(s) 😊

On Monday we will begin 'Phase 1':

- Week 3 and until further notice: all students have one day per week allocated for attendance from 11th May. Students will attend in their Houses:
 - Bluegum (Mondays),
 - Casuarina (Tuesdays),
 - Waratah (Wednesdays) and
 - Wattle (Thursdays).
- Check with your children to ensure they know their House. This will assist families to remain together as they attend school on the same day. The Sentral Parent Portal app and website allow you access to see your child's House, along with their class and attendance details. Please plan for your children to attend on this allocated day as it will assist in our planning of staffing.
 - Priority #1 is to have students in their classrooms for face-to-face teaching, interactive and guided learning of skills and understandings such as reading, writing and maths. It will also be a time for teachers to check in with students and review what they are finding easy/challenging, and to provide personalised teaching to support progress across the coming week's Learning From Home activities (formative assessment opportunities).
 - Priority #2 is for students to see their own class teacher. While initially attending school only one day per week this will not be possible for ALL students unfortunately, as classroom teachers will all also be continuing to plan, create and deliver online learning activities, as well as monitoring the other $\frac{3}{4}$ of their class who are Learning From Home on that day. Tasks are being shared across our teaching teams as a result. Phase 1 organisation is designed to lead to seamlessly into Phase 2, where ALL students will see their own classroom teacher once each week, with their second day taught face-to-face by another teacher. We hope to move to Phase 2 in Week 5... but please stay tuned!
 - Priority #3 is for students to all return for at least one day per week to their school routines, to play with their peers, and to feel like an Ironbarker again!
- The attached 'Return to school plan' has clear details and is specific to Ironbark Ridge PS.
- The attached 'Managed-return-to-school-for-families' graphic is a Dept. of Education document that provides overall guidance to all schools as we progress towards full attendance by all students.

a community of safe, responsible, respectful learners



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Our school is a safe zone for our students, so:

- We are asking all parents and carers to remain off the school site so we can reduce the number of adult visitors and thus minimise the chances of Covid-19 being brought onto the school grounds. Please phone or email the school office with any queries or to arrange a physical meeting. The Uniform Store remains open ONLY for online ordering so please do not attempt to visit in person... visit their online ordering website instead.
 - *KTOOSH before and after school care drop-offs and pick-ups are the exceptions to this request.*
- Only our main Ironbark Ridge Rd gate will be open for entry and exit by our students.
- Morning drop-offs should be completed at the gate, please. Many staff will be supervising the playground and will assist students as they enter the school grounds. Students arrive spread across the 8.30-9.00am 'window' of time, so it will be easier to maintain social distancing in the mornings... although we rely on you all to maintain social distance from each other of 1.5m at least while walking and waiting outside the school.
- Afternoon school finishes are the most problematic times for us to maintain physical distance and remain safe. As a result, we are planning slightly 'staggered' release times that will work like this:
 - K-2 students will prepare for school end at 2.45pm. Please arrive early for their pickup.
 - Older siblings will find and collect their younger (K-2) siblings from teachers and leave the school slightly early at 2.50pm.
 - The rest of our K-2 students will be walked by teachers to the front gates and staff will assist them to locate you for pick-up.
 - Year 3 and 4 students will be released next, followed by Year 5 and 6 students.
 - Use of the pick-up zone in front of the school is encouraged as you will be able to remain in your car for safety and convenience. If you are unable to secure a 'park' in the pick-up zone, please continue to drive past, around the round-about and back down Ironbark Ridge Rd to try again. Patience will ensure student safety for all.
 - An agreed parking point in a side street near the school is a good idea to trial if your children are ready for such responsibility.
 - Remember to please maintain the requested 1.5m from each other while you wait for your children (if not staying in your car) 😊
- The Ridgy-Didge Kids' Fridge, our school Canteen, will be open from next Monday 11th May for online lunch orders, through FlexiSchools, on all five days of the week. Doris can't wait to be serving our students again, and as usual she will be maintaining the exemplary hygiene practices she has always used to keep our students all safe.

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- Students who have loaned/borrowed a school device (eg. Laptop) for use while *Learning From Home* should remember to bring it with them on their day at school to reduce the need for keyboard cleaning and to add to the available devices in classrooms.

All Ironbark Ridge staff are really looking forward to welcoming our students back onto our school site as we take the next steps together!

Kind regards,

Nick Thomson
Principal