

AL NOORI NEWS

Al Noori Muslim School

Our mission is for all students to be empowered, resilient and future-focused.

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Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Assalamu 'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakaatuhu.

Welcome to a new school year at Al Noori Muslim School. It is an exciting time for teachers and staff as students start or return to the school environment. We anticipate students are eager to return and they are recharged and ready to start the new school year. We are so delighted that you are all part of our learning community and welcome and value your positive mindset and dedication to educational excellence, character building and holistic learning.

COVID SAFE SMART PLAN

In this newsletter, we will share with you how we are building on our experiences of the last 2 years and continuing to safeguard our school community while keeping our school open, where we know the best learning happens.

We will start 2022 with a strategic approach to COVID-19 safe measures that have been developed based on advice from AISNSW and NSW Health to help to minimise transmissions at school. The health and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our priority, and these measures are designed to help keep our school open and our students learning in the classroom.

These key measures include:

- Rapid Antigen Home Test (RAHT) kits have been provided to all students to help monitor your child's health and minimise transmission of COVID-19 across our school.
- Wearing of masks indoors is required for all staff and students in Year 7 and above and strongly recommended for all primary students. Please ensure that your child brings a mask with them to school every day.
- Only fully vaccinated visitors essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing can come to a school site.
- Students will be kept in their year groups on school grounds, with staggered pick-ups, break times, playground, and canteen access to minimise the spread of COVID-19 across cohorts.
- We will continue to use good hygiene, enhanced cleaning, good air flow and ventilation in learning spaces, as well as physical distancing practices.

While this is not going to be a normal start to the school year, we know that being together in the classroom is the most effective way for students to learn and grow.

Your child's relationship with their teacher is important, but as we manage potential disruptions to staffing due to COVID-19, they may get to meet more teachers than usual.

RAPID ANITGEN HOME TESTING

We have distributed packs of Rapid Antigen Home Test (RAHT) kits to all students and staff to start Term 1. The use of RAHT kits is an important step to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. They are a quick and easy screening tool to help detect COVID-19. It is a simple process of placing a nose or throat swab in a chemical solution, which is put onto a scanning device. Results can be ready within 15 minutes.

Instructions are included in the kits, detailing how to use the tests, check the results and dispose of the tests safely. You can also download the instructions through the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) website. The user guides will also contain a contact number for the suppliers if you need additional support.

How and when do I pick up the RAHT kits?

All tests were distributed on Friday 28 January 2022. Parents who did not have the opportunity to collect their RAHT kits can pick them up on Monday, 31 January 2022 between 8:00am and 8:30am from the High School Administration Office. Please ensure you arrive at 8:00 am. Parents and carers MUST leave the school site immediately after picking up their packs of RAHT kits.

Additional information

- School staff will **not** be administering the RAHT to students.
- RAHT tests should be completed at home in the morning before attending school.
- Each student was issued an initial supply of 4 RAHTs to be used twice a week in the morning before attending school on Monday and Wednesday.
- If a student or staff member receives a positive RAHT test, they need to:
 - record the positive RAHT result through the Service NSW website or App
 - notify the school of the positive RAHT or PCR test result as soon as possible
 - follow <u>NSW Health advice link</u> to isolate for 7 days.

Negative results **do not** need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.



STUDENTS OR STAFF WHO ARE UNWELL AT SCHOOL

Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay home until they can complete a RAHT or PCR test.

- If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAHT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.
- If the second RAHT or initial PCR test result is negative, the student or staff member can return to school.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Under the new close contact rules, schools are **no** longer included in contact tracing. Schools will no longer have to send cohorts home or undertake contact tracing when there is a case within the school. Parents/carers and the school community will be informed via email when there is a positive case in our school and advise families on public health advice, including monitoring for symptoms.

MANAGING POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

What does a student or staff member do if they test positive?

The Public Health Order requires students to immediately notify the school of their positive result. Any student or parents / carers who test positive to COVID-19 are required to follow NSW Health requirements under the Public Health Order for testing positive and self-isolation. Currently, the requirements are:

- isolate for 7 days following the positive test
- leave isolation after 7 days if no symptoms (sore throat, runny nose, cough, or shortness of breath)
- if there are symptoms after 7 days, then remain in isolation until 24 hours after symptoms have resolved. Note: if a person continues to have symptoms, they can leave isolation after 7 days with a medical clearance.

Students who return a positive RAHT result must register it on the Service NSW app or service.nsw.gov.au website as soon as possible.

Students who receive a positive PCR or RAHT result must tell the school by sending an email to: enrolments@alnoori.nsw.edu.au or responding to the schools Sentral SMS absence text as soon as possible and follow NSW Health advice.

When can a student return to school after testing positive and when do they re-commence surveillance testing?

Once a person who has tested positive to COVID-19 has finished their isolation period as detailed above, they can immediately return to school settings.

Individuals do not have to return a negative test to leave isolation as there may still be a viral load present in their system which may result in a positive test result. However, they are not likely to continue to be infectious.

NSW Health have advised in face-to-face meetings that once a person who has tested positive has finished their isolation, they do not need to self-isolate or undertake testing (RAHT or PCR) for 28 days unless symptoms reappear. Following these 28 days, individuals should resume RAHT surveillance testing.

Are schools required to ask students if an individual tested positive over non-term time?

The Public Health Order requires staff and students that test positive to notify the school. Responsibility for these notifications lies with the individual, rather than schools having to follow up. These notifications are particularly critical as they may impact school operations.

What is the definition of a household/ close contact?

A household contact is a person who lives with someone who has COVID-19. Only household contacts are required by NSW Health to isolate for 7 days (unless the person has previously tested positive to COVID and ended their isolation for this in the past 28 days).

Any other individual that has contact with a COVID positive person is not required to isolate but is advised by NSW Health to assess the level of risk of the contact and respond accordingly. This means any exposure to COVID at school or socially does not result in a person being a close contact.

What happens if a student is identified as a household/ close contact? Can they attend school during their isolation period?

No. A student is no longer able to attend school through the use of RAHT if they are identified as a household/ close contact. Students identified as household/ close contacts are required to complete the 7- day period of isolation.

MASK WEARING ON SCHOOL SITE

All primary and secondary school staff will be required to wear well-fitted masks indoors.

Secondary school students will be required to wear well-fitted masks indoors and during prayer sessions.

Primary school students are strongly recommended to wear well-fitted masks indoors. Primary students will be required to wear well-fitted masks during prayer sessions.

Masks are also strongly encouraged in outdoor settings where students cannot physically distance. Your child can remove their mask when eating.

Parents and carers are to ensure that their children have an adequate supply of masks for use during the school day.

VISITORS ON SCHOOL SITES AND VACCINATIONS

No parents, carers or visitors will be allowed on school site until further notice with the following exceptions:

- Two parents or carers are allowed to accompany their child into school on their first day of Kindergarten.
- Visitors supporting school operations and curriculum delivery must be fully vaccinated.

OTHER KEY MEASURES

Ventilation

We will continue to follow NSW Health ventilation guidelines that natural ventilation is the most effective measure so we will maximise fresh air flow in learning spaces through opening doors and windows.

This approach is strongly supported by expert advice. Where natural ventilation is not sufficient, we will continue to use outdoor settings where possible.

Cleaning

We continue to have enhanced cleaning focusing on high-touch and high-traffic areas.

Hand Sanitisers

We continue to provide hand sanitisers in every classroom, staffrooms, and key locations across the school.

Physical distancing

We will continue to follow physical distancing guidelines and maintain 1.5 metres distance wherever possible.

TERM DATES

Term 1 - 10 Weeks

Monday 31st January 2022 to Friday 8th April 2022

2 Week Holiday

Monday 11th April 2022 to Tuesday 26th April 2022

Term 2 - 10 Weeks

Wednesday 27th April 2022 to Friday 1st July 2022

2 Week Holiday

Monday 4th July 2022 to Monday 18th July 2022

Term 3 - 10 Weeks

Tuesday 19th July 2022 to Friday 23rd September 2022

1 Week Holiday

Monday 26th September 2022 to Monday 3rd October 2022

Term 4 - 10 Weeks

Tuesday 4th October 2022 to Wednesday 7th December 2022

7 Week Holiday

KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6

YEARS 1-6 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

On Monday the 31st of January we look forward to welcoming our Year 1-6 students back to school.

Parents are kindly requested to drop off the Years 1-4 students at the Primary Campus and the Year 5 & 6 students to the Stage 3 Campus located on Mimosa Rd.

At 8:30am the bell will ring, and students will assemble in their 2021 classes. They will be met and welcomed by the 2021 teachers and then they will be assigned their 2022 class and meet their new teachers.

Please ensure your child attends school in full school uniform. Students are required to bring in their own stationary, lunch, and a water bottle.

KINDERGATEN FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Parents & Caregivers will be emailed information regarding the students' class allocation and the procedure for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Please ensure your child attends school in full school uniform. Students are required to bring in their own stationary, lunch, and a water bottle.

We are looking forward to meeting our Kindergarten students.

YEAR 7 TO YEAR 12

YEAR 7 AND NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Al Noori Muslim School's High School campus are delighted to welcome the new Year 7 cohort and the newly enrolled students for 2022.

On Monday, 31st January 2022, high school students will convene in the High School Courtyard for a short assembly at 8:25am.

After the assembly:

- Year 7 2022 students will be escorted to the High School Hall for an orientation session with the Wellbeing Coordinator Mrs Jalloul and their Roll Call teachers.
- Newly enrolled students will participate in an orientation session with the Wellbeing Coordinator Mr Kamaz.

Getting it right from the start!

The Wellbeing Team has been busy during the summer break developing an engaging Orientation Program for new students and a 'Reconnect' Wellbeing program for their returning students. We are very excited to welcome back our students to face-to-face learning in in 2022.

Students will be involved in several activities throughout Weeks 1 and 2. These activities are designed to support your child's wellbeing:

- Making Connections Activity
- All About Me with a Twist Activity
- Classroom Contracts which will cover behaviour, work standards, mutual respect, and responsibilities in the classroom
- Student Leadership and Team Building activities, including upcoming leadership opportunities at the school
- Goal Setting and Study Skills workshops

Unfortunately, due to the current COVID situation, parents will not be able to participate in the Orientation Sessions in 2022. However, parents will be updated via online presentations, online orientation sessions, emails, and the School Newsletter.

TERM 1 2022 RETURN TO SCHOOL

The Term 1, 2022 return to school schedule:

Kindergarten

Start Dates:

KR & KG - Wednesday 2nd of February 2022 KO & KW - Thursday 3rd of February 2022 KB, KP & KY - Friday 4th of February 2022

School Hours: 9:00am - 2:30pm

Campus & Gate: K-4

Campus- Entry & Exit Via Greenacre Rd Class allocations will be released soon.

Year 1

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:30am - 2:45pm

Campus & Gate: K-4 Campus- Entry & Exit Via

Greenacre Rd

Year 2

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:30am -2:45pm

Campus & Gate: K-4 Campus- Entry & Exit Via

Noble Ave

Year 3

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:30am - 3:20pm

Campus & Gate: K-4 Campus- Entry & Exit Via

Noble Ave

Year 4

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:30am -3:20pm

Campus & Gate: K-4 Campus- Entry & Exit Via

Noble Ave

Year 5

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:30am -3:20pm

Campus & Gate: Stage 3 Campus - Entry & Exit

Via Mimosa Rd

Year 6

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:30am -3:20pm

Campus & Gate: Stage 3 Campus – Entry & Exit

Via Mimosa Rd

Years 7-12

Start Date: Monday 31st of January 2022

School Hours: 8:25am - 3:30pm

Campus & Gate: Entry & Exit Via Mimosa Rd and

Greenacre Rd

We look forward to working with you and your children.

Wassalaam

A Kak

Mr Ali Kak Principal