



## **Update 2 on Coronavirus**

11 August 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you for your support of our school community during the latest lockdown.

The work that has been done together over the last three days, minimising movement, returning to remote learning, wearing masks, and getting tested has meant that the Chief Health Officer has [lifted the lockdown in Cairns and Yarrabah](#) from 4 pm Wednesday 11 August.

This is great news and from Thursday 12 August 2021 our school will welcome back all students and staff.

### **School will reopen tomorrow to children only – access limitations**

Whilst this is welcome news, we will need to implement additional restrictions to minimise transmission and further protect the health and safety of our school community. These additional restrictions will include **wearing of masks on school sites for all adults and limiting parents, carers and other visitors on school sites unless absolutely necessary.**

I realise that having parents and carers on our school site is part of our school routine and this restriction will be challenging, especially for our youngest students. However, these restrictions are necessary so our students can return to their classrooms from Thursday in the safest way possible.

Restrictions on having parents/carers and visitors on school sites have been in place in the past, particularly during last year and our school will be reinstating some of the previous arrangements to ensure students enter and leave school safely.

If for any reason a parent or carer must be on school grounds, you are reminded that you must wear a mask at all times while visiting the school.

### **Parent/ Caregiver pick up and drop off**

For the end of day and beginning of the day pick up and drop off routines - there are no specific gates children are required to be collected from but we ask parents/carers to please communicate with their children which gate they will be picked up from. Additional staff will be available at gates to support younger children if required.

### **Other restrictions**

The Department of Education has also asked us to implement the following additional restrictions until otherwise advised:

- Large group activities including instrumental music groups are not permitted under the current restrictions in place in restricted local government areas. Small group instrumental activities such as regular music lessons may proceed with some restrictions.
- Interschool sport and excursions will not be permitted.

I realise the latest developments may create challenges for families, but please be assured these decisions have been taken as a necessary response to the evolving COVID-19 situation.



The Department of Education will continue to keep me and all principals up-to-date with any further required changes to school arrangements over the coming days and I will continue to provide parents with this information as soon as it becomes available.

Further information for parents is available in the [Department of Education's frequently asked questions](#).

I encourage you to stay informed of the latest developments regarding COVID-19 by regularly visiting the [Queensland Government's COVID-19 website](#)

Thank you for your understanding as we continue to work together during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely

Principal

Yours sincerely



**Mr MATT THOMPSON**  
Principal



**Whitfield State School**  
*Each striving for the peak*

A message from the  
**School Office**

**QLD Government has announced 3 day lockdown ends at 4pm today – masks remain mandatory!**



**Whitfield State School**  
**WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL**

Due to the current pandemic, for the time being, schools are to implement *social distancing measures* for all adults including limited access to the school grounds.

Parents/caregivers please drop off & collect your children **at school gates only** and refrain from entering the school grounds unless pre-arranged to visit the office.

**For school pick up -**  
Please communicate with your child/ren to arrange the gate they will be picked up from

Staff will be available to collect & walk younger children to and from classrooms if required

