



Maleny State School

Connected Learners – Creative Leaders

8 August 2021

Dear parents and caregivers

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

The work that we have done together over the past week, minimising movement, returning to remote learning, wearing masks, and getting tested has meant that the Chief Health Officer has [lifted the lockdown in the 11 Local Government Areas](#).

This is great news and from Monday 9 August 2021 our school will welcome back all students and staff.

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 Monday 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 our previous arrangements to ensure students enter and leave schools 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.

School Process Commencing Monday 9 August

Arriving at School

Parents are required to drop students off outside the school gate and leave promptly. Parents are not to enter the school grounds (except Prep parents for collection after school). Staff will meet Prep students and younger students from 8:30 at the Crossing Gate and escort them to classes. Parents can continue to stay in contact with teachers via phone and email. The best way to assist us is by not dropping students off until after 8:30am and not coming early to collect (except Prep parents) students as this will cause cueing.

Leaving School

Aim: To not cause, large groups especially parents, gathering at crossing or around school/classrooms and disperse children in smaller groups.

Prep students will continue to be collected from the Prep area as usual. Parents are encouraged to collect students from **2:40pm** to avoid all parents from other year levels arriving at the same time.

Year 5 (walk past bike racks) **and 6** (walk past Mr Byrne's office) will be **escorted by their teachers** to the front gate near the office at the end of each day before other classes are released **2:45pm**.



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Year 1, students will be escorted by teachers to exit through the Crossing gate with parents or siblings **just before the 2:50 bell.**

Year 2 students will be escorted by teachers to exit through the Crossing Gate immediately **on the bell 2:50pm.**

Year 4 and 3 will be **escorted by teachers** to the footpath shortly **after the bell** to exit also through the **office gate leaving gaps between classes.**

Students required to collect younger siblings will still be able to do so as normal and leave **via the most appropriate exit.**

Please use patience, flexibility and common sense to ensure we achieve our aim. These processes are similar to last year and proved to be very effective.

Bus

Bus students will continue to follow the same process as always. Teacher Aides will escort/wait with Prep and Year 1 students putting them on the bus. Students will sit and wait quietly for Goodstart or second set of buses under the school at 2:50pm along with students waiting to be picked up by high school siblings.

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

- assemblies and other large group activities including instrumental music groups, choirs, performances, extra curricula sporting activities, and dancing will not be permitted
- 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

John Byrne - Principal Maleny State School