

# The Crest



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## **Term 4 Week 6 10 November 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers

It is wonderful that from Monday 8 November our school is now at Level 3 settings. This means that we can now proceed with some activities which will be modified to ensure we are following DoE Covid safety plans.

### **Kindy Orientation**

We can proceed with Kindy 2022 Orientation with students being able to attend site with one fully vaccinated parent or carer.

3 Kindy Orientation Sessions will be held on 3 consecutive Fridays:

Week 7 Friday 19 November 2021

Week 8 Friday 26 November 2021

Week 9 Friday 3 December 2021

There will be 2 sessions held, one at 9:30am to 10:30am and the other at 12:00pm to 1:00pm.

While the children are engaging in learning activities with the Kindy teachers, parents will attend outdoor information sessions with interactive activities. Each week different topics will be covered.

All parents and carers attending the site will be required to check in using the school check in Service NSW QR code and proof of double vaccination will be requested by a staff member.

Unvaccinated visitors will not be permitted onsite.

### **Presentation Day**

We are currently in the process of planning our end of year Presentation Day Assemblies. At this stage we are looking to run 3 different assemblies, Stage 3, Stage 2 and Kindy-Year 2. One fully vaccinated parent/carers will be invited to attend the assembly for each award recipient and an individual photo of award recipients will be taken for those parents/carers unable to attend.

All parents and carers attending the site will be required to check in using the school check in Service NSW QR code and proof of double vaccination will be requested by a staff member.

Unvaccinated visitors will not be permitted onsite.

### **Renewal Program**

We're upgrading our school! We have been successful in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of applications for the Renewal Program. We're getting help from the NSW Government as part of the Schools Renewal Program to update our staffroom.

The Schools Renewal Program is part of the NSW Government's commitment to provide students with modern and engaging learning facilities. Our school will contribute 20% of the cost and the NSW Government contributes the rest, allowing us to deliver this project faster.

Our staffroom upgrade means staff will be able to enjoy their breaks in a clean and tidy environment which will have a positive impact on their health and wellbeing.

### **Not returning to BPS 2022**

It is the time of the year where the staff are looking at class formation and student numbers for 2022. Please email the office as soon as possible if your child will be in Years 1-6 in 2022 and **will not be** returning to BPS in 2022. This will allow us to plan classes and staffing more accurately.

### **Canteen**

The canteen will be operational from Wednesday 27 October for online orders only.

### **Cohorts**

From the 25 October when all students returned to site, students were separated into class cohorts and classes are kept separate where possible during learning time. During eating time and on the playground, stage groups have been allocated sections of the playground to play in. We are very lucky to have such a large outdoor open space which means we do not have to have staggered lunch times like many other schools. Teachers explicitly teach and remind students of their allocated areas.

### **Drop-offs and pick-ups**

The drop off and pick up of students will continue from Hillcrest Road. To limit contact please ensure you don't linger at drop off or pick up. Teacher supervision in the playground starts at 8:50am, so please ensure students walking to school by themselves are arriving after 8:50am.

To ease congestion at pick up time children will exit from their allocated stage gates as follows:

Kinder - Office Gate

Stage 3 - Hall Gate

Stage 1 - BOOSH gate

## Stage 2 - Bottom gate near the car park

Students catching a bus or riding a bike will exit from the Hall gate.

Please note siblings who travel home together can meet on school grounds and exit together. Please ensure you talk to your children, so they are aware of the drop off and pick up arrangements.

Parents and carers must follow the school's advice regarding changes to student drop-off and pick-up. This includes staying in the car when dropping off and picking up children if it is safe to do so. This does not apply to drop off and pick up from BOOSH as sign-in and -out procedures are required.

Parents and carers should:

- follow the physical distancing guidelines and avoid gathering outside school gates
- remain outside school grounds
- adhere to mask-wearing requirements in accordance with the Public Health Order
- Sign in using the school check in Service NSW QR code if entering the school grounds

### **Visitors**

Restrictions to visitors on site will remain and essential workers such as allied health professionals are able to attend site from the 25 October.

### **Check-in protocols when attending a school site**

All staff and visitors attending a school site must comply with school protocols and check in using the school check in Service NSW QR code and proof of double vaccination will be requested by a staff member at the office.

### **Health and Safety**

Staff and students must not attend work or school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:

- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free or
- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available.

### **Student absences**

If you believe that your child has a condition that means it's not safe for them to return to school, you will need to provide a medical certificate. In this instance, we encourage you to speak with their doctor or health care provider to develop a [COVID-19 Action Plan](#) to support decision-making about their activities, including attendance at school. Please contact your class teacher if you have concerns regarding your child returning to school so that we can work with you to support their safe return as we know school is the best place for our children.

## **Masks**

Masks are not mandatory for students however they are strongly encouraged. Masks are mandatory for staff while inside. The DoE has provided teachers with information about how to teach the children to wear masks safely all teachers will cover this with their classes.

## **Changes in Levels**

We are currently at the Level 3 category. As we receive further updates it is possible that we move to Level 2 which would see more restrictions on school site ease. There is a possibility of schools reverting to Level 4 and into home learning if there is a positive case in the school or an escalation of positive cases in the community. We need to keep that in mind as it may be a possibility in the future. We are moving into the unknown. We will keep the community updated as soon as possible with any changes.

## **Reporting**

Reporting for Semester 2, 2021 will occur but with some amendments. During Term 4 Week 10 parents/carers will receive a simplified written report about their child's learning during Semester 2. Parents will also be given the opportunity to report on their child's progress and learning while learning from home. This information will be valuable for the teachers in helping to understand the learning and application from a parent's point of view.

## **Parent Communication**

BPS Parent Communication Procedures and our BPS Visitor Procedures are available on our school website.

We encourage parents to engage in their child's learning by leaving a like or a comment on their Seesaw work. If you have questions, enquires or comments for teachers please email or phone the school and the teacher will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please note access to the school site is restricted to essential visitors only. All staff and any visitors are required to use the QR codes to check in and out of school premises and are required to wear masks. Proof of double vaccination will be requested at the office.

School Bytes, our school email system is set up to send emails to the parent listed as the 1<sup>st</sup> contact on student enrolment forms. If you would like to add a second parent/carers contact to receive emails, please email your request to the school email address.

Additionally, if you change your email address or are not receiving emails, please ensure you notify the school so we can check and update your details.

## **Loan Devices**

Thank you to those families who have already returned their loan devices. If your family borrowed a school device during Learning from home, we are now requesting that these be returned at your earliest convenience as these devices will now be

required for student use within the classroom. Please return the devices to the front office.

### **WHS**

Intensive cleaning will continue to take place daily and schools are being provided with additional hygiene supplies.

### **Questions or concerns**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school via the school email or phone the office. Please be aware that response times may be slower than usual as we are experiencing a higher volume of calls and emails due to the changes.

### **Risk Management Plans**

If your child has sustained a serious injury and requires accommodations or adjustments to be put in place please phone the school office to make an appointment with me. We create Risk Management Plans to prevent any further injury and so that all staff are aware of any necessary changes that are put in place.

### **2022 Enrolments – Please enrol your child now for 2022 using online enrolments**

A child is entitled to enrol at the local school that the student is eligible to attend if his or her home is within that school's intake area.

Currently our school has an enrolment of 365 students. We sit 41 above our enrolment cap of 324 students. An out of area application for BPS can still be made, however, it is submitted to a panel who follow criteria to decide whether the application is accepted.

BPS Enrolment Procedures and Protocols are located on our school website at <https://berowra-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Please contact the office if you require any additional information.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me via the school email [berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or phone the front office.

Vicky Wallace  
Principal

### **A message from the Canteen**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please ensure that all canteen orders are placed via the flexischools app. We cannot accept cash orders at all.

Please do not send money with students to purchase food/drink.

Again, please order via flexischools app by the cut off time of 9.20am each day to avoid any disappointment.

Thank you

### **School Banking update from Commonwealth Bank**

For 90 years, our School Banking program has helped children learn about money, reinforced the importance of regular savings and provided structure for parents to support their children to save.

Though the program continues to have strong support from schools, parents and teachers, recent decisions by some state and territory governments because of a review by the corporate regulator mean we are unable to continue providing programs in schools, and we have had to make a difficult decision to close our School Banking program for all government and non-government schools across the country.

Our School Banking program was established in 1931 at a time when having a bank account was not commonplace, and since then we have helped more than 15 million Australians take their first financial steps. This would not have been possible without the wonderful support we have received from schools like yours, including all the parents and volunteers, and for this we are deeply grateful. Thank you.

Even though this is a sad time, School Banking has taught so many young Australians, past and present, the value of money and we believe this should be celebrated. We have created a place for you to share your stories, fondest memories and lessons learnt through the program. To share your story and access our financial education resources, please visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)

Even though the CommBank School Banking program will not be returning to your school after this year, you can continue to make deposits into your child's Youthsaver account through online transfers or at any CommBank branch. If you need further information, please phone 132 221 or visit your local CommBank branch.

## **Road Safety**

### **Driver Safety Message**



Hillcrest Road is very busy and there are a number of pedestrians crossing at Balaclava Road before and after school.

Please be mindful that U-turns are not safe around school zones

# Attendance

Teachers are still recording attendance. Students who are learning from home are recorded as Flexible on the roll. This will not negatively affect their attendance. Teachers will be checking if students have submitted work.

If your child is sick please let the school know by either email or phone so that we can update our rolls accordingly.

## Health and Safety is everyone's responsibility

Our P&C has purchased accident insurance for students who are injured as a result of a serious incident at school. Information is available at the office.

**Accident & Health International**  
Underwriting Pty Limited



**Covid-19 Update** Berowra Public School is continuing to follow DoE and NSW Health advice to help manage the spread of viruses and we will continue to keep the community informed as we are provided updates.



1. **Wash your hands** regularly and thoroughly.
2. **Sneeze into your elbow** or a tissue, disposing of the tissue straight away and then washing your hands.
3. **Stay home if you are unwell** and in schools, send home staff or students who show signs of being unwell through the day.



# BPS SCHOOL CALENDAR

**\*Please note that all events scheduled onsite until 25 October have been cancelled**

**\* Please note calendar events for the remainder of the term are pending Covid-19 restrictions and DoE guidelines at the time of the event**

TERM 4		
Week	Date	Event
<b>Week 1</b>	Tuesday 5 October	Term 4 resumes for staff and students
<b>Week 3</b>	Monday 18 October	Kindy and Year 1 return to school
<b>Week 3</b>	Tuesday 19 October	Year 2 Excursion to Sydney Zoo
<b>Week 3</b>	Wednesday 20 October	P&C Meeting
<b>Week 4</b>	Monday 25 October	All students 2-6 return to school
<b>Week 4</b>	Thursday 28 October	Grandparent's and Special Friend's Day – Modified activities
<b>Week 5</b>	Thursday 4 November	Canteen Special Day: TBA
<b>Week 7</b>	Wednesday 17 November	P&C Meeting
<b>Week 7</b>	Sunday 21 November	Working Bee
<b>Week 8</b>	Friday 26 November	School Support Group Disco
<b>Week 9</b>	Thursday 2 December	Term 4 Dance Concert
<b>Week 9</b>	Thursday 2 December	Year 5 High School Experience Day
<b>Week 9</b>	Saturday 4 December	Election BBQ run by the P&C
<b>Week 10</b>	Wednesday 8 December	Presentation Day - Modified
<b>Week 10</b>	Friday 10 December	Semester 2 Student Reports
<b>Week 11</b>	Monday 13 December	Year 6 Farewell - Modified
<b>Week 11</b>	Tuesday 14 December	Talent Show
<b>Week 11</b>	Wednesday 15 December	P&C Meeting (if required)
<b>Week 11</b>	Thursday 16 December	Last day of school for students
<b>Week 11</b>	Friday 17 December	Last day of school for staff



# eSafety parent guide

## to online gaming

Join the eSafety Commissioner's expert education and training team for a FREE live webinar.

**This Term 4 webinar will provide parents and carers with an understanding of the benefits and risks of online gaming. It is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 8–13.**

**Register now**

**Dates:** (AEDT)

**15 November** 12.30 to 1.30pm

**24 November** 7.30 to 8.30pm



**Register now:** [esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars](https://esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars)