

RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Learning to Live • Living to Learn SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 13 OCTOBER • TERM 4 WEEK 2

TERM 4
Week 3
18 October
Kindergarten, Year 1, 1-4J Return to School
19 October
Grandparents Day (online lessons)
Week 4
25 October
(ear 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 4-6R, 4-6F Return to School
28 October
2022 Kindergarten Transition Session 1 - 9.15am – virtual

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to Term 4

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new students and families that have joined our community since the beginning of Term 3.

I hope you had a change of pace over the holiday break and enjoyed some time together without having to balance learning from home with other demands.

We have all welcomed the news of eased restrictions which will see some positive changes in Term 4.

The staff and I are excited to be welcoming students back to school.

Return to school roadmap for Term 4

In Term 4, where stay-at-home rules are still in place but high community vaccination and low transmission conditions are met, students will return to school in a staged approach for prioritised cohorts, with no mingling or on-site activities. Our students will return to face-to-face learning with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe Level 3 plus settings on school sites in the following order as announced by the Premier on Thursday 30 September.

- 18 October: Kindergarten, Year 1 and 1-4J
- 25 October: Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 4-6R and 4-6F

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order and additional advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent advice on our Advice for families page.

For those families who have siblings across year groups I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back on site. But to reiterate the message above – we need this time to prepare our school and operations for having all our students back so it is essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

No student should return earlier than planned in the staged approach detailed above. Students who have previously been unable to learn from home, and where arrangements have been made with the school, may continue to attend school. If family circumstances have changed and your children can no longer learn from home please email the school to discuss when your child will be returning to school.

For students who are returning outside their allocated week, a roll will be marked at the gates each morning to ensure that students are attending on the days that have been arranged with the school.

Masks

Current NSW Health advice requires that all staff must wear a face mask or covering at all times including when working outdoors – this includes in playgrounds and elsewhere on school grounds.

Masks are strongly recommended for primary students.

We ask that students bring their own masks to school and have a clearly named zip lock bag in their school bag for masks to be safely stored while students eat their lunch and recess or undertake physical activity.

Vaccinations

All staff will have been double vaccinated when your child returns to school.

Link to Return to School Plans

A link to my presentation to unpack the return to school plans.

Return to School Plan - Term 4 - Parent Workshop - https://youtu.be/DYWkOh6LMa0

Drop-offs and pick-ups

Please note there will be no entry or exit from the High School gates on Riverbank Drive. This is to minimise contact between our students and The Ponds High School students.

Pick-ups will be staggered by cohorts and use a variety of exits on Wentworth Street.

Parents and carers must follow their school's advice regarding changes to student drop-off and pickup. Parents and carers should:

- follow the physical distancing advice for their local area and avoid gathering outside school gates
- remain outside school grounds (some exceptions may exist for vulnerable students or students with disability)
- adhere to mask-wearing requirements in accordance with the Public Health Order
- sign in using the Service NSW QR code if entering the school.

Morning Drop-Off

Normal start times will continue for the remainder of the year. This is 8:45am, with supervision provided from 8:15am.

All students must enter through the main yellow gates on Wentworth Street in the morning. Please note Riverbank Drive Entry will be closed. As we have a natural stagger of students entering the school from 8:15 – 8:45am we can ensure safe social distancing practices between students.

Gates will not open before 8.15am and no supervision will be available before 8:15am. Students will go directly to their classrooms when they arrive at school. Teachers will be present in classrooms from 8:15am to provide supervision.

Afternoon Pick-Up

To support a safe pick-up, a staggered finish time will be in place for the remainder of the year. Classroom teachers will make contact with parents to discuss the pick-up arrangements for your child.

All students who are picked up at a staggered time (2:00pm, 2:15pm or 2:30pm) must be picked up by one parent/carer. This must be done so via the designated gate. Parents must wait in their designated class/grade sections and wait for an executive staff member to call parents to the gate to pick up their child. There will be clear signage along Wentworth Street either on the school fence or on A Frames.

Sibling families will be dismissed at 2:45pm. The eldest children from each family will collect their younger siblings from classrooms before exiting the school through the gate of the eldest child.

Children who travel home by themselves will be dismissed at 2:45pm.

Please note there will be no entry or exit from the High School gates on Riverbank Drive

Designated Gates

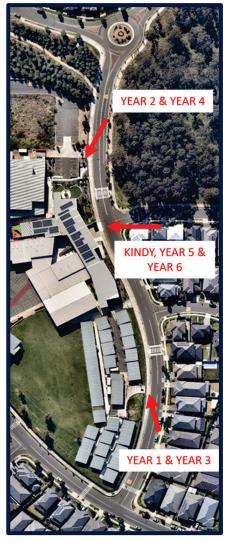
Kindergarten	Yellow Front Gate	GATE 5
Year 1	Top Carpark Gate	GATE 3
Year 2	Back High School Gate on Wentworth Street	GATE 6
Year 3	Top Carpark Gate	GATE 3
Year 4	Back High School Gate on Wentworth Street	GATE 6
Year 5	Yellow Front Gate	GATE 5
Year 6	Yellow Front Gate	GATE 5

Existing OSHC and High School pick-up arrangements remain unchanged.

Activities that are not permitted or on hold

Schools must cease the following activities during school hours or within school grounds:

- singing, chanting, group repetition and choirs (except for HSC preparation and assessment)
- sport (except for sport within existing PDHPE classes, provided this limits student mixing)
- bands and ensembles, emergency drills
- interschool activities and events including interschool sport, gala days, trials, knock outs and carnivals
- SRE/SEE/VSA
- community language schools
- assemblies
- school performances, productions, concerts, speech nights and award presentations
- excursions, camps, field trips and principal-endorsed activities for students, international excursions
- student visits to aged care facilities
- community events (fetes, grandparents' days etc.)
- P&C activities, including meetings (unless held online only)
- all external providers and specialist programs not directly related to educational outcomes and support, including community use of school facilities (such as markets and all after school activities)



Year 6 Formal

Further advice will be provided in Term 4 as the Department of Education are working closely with the mass gatherings team in NSW Health. We have an alternate plan for our students to ensure this special occasion can proceed.

Staffing announcements

• Congratulations to Ms Edwards on her permanent appointment as Assistant Principal Marsden Park Public School.

I would like to congratulate the following staff on their permanent appointments to Riverbank Public School.

- Mrs Collard, Miss Renshaw, Miss Wickens and Miss Dowsing as classroom teachers.
- Mrs Ormsby on her permanent appointment to our school administration team.

A warm welcome to new staff

- Miss Monty Classroom Teacher 1E.
- Miss Gunton, Miss Single and Miss Smith new targeted graduates.

Kindergarten Transition 2022

We look forward to sharing an online presentation for new Kindergarten families on Thursday 28 October from 9.15am to outline the transition to school program.

Permanent Buildings

This term we will see the installation of a more permanent block of 4 demountables similar to our double story building. The work will be completed for Day 1, Term 1 2022. There will be no impact to teaching and learning.

NAPLAN

The staff and I have recently been acknowledged by our Secretary of Education for our 2021 NAPLAN results. NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) was conducted in Term 2 this year. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are tested on the fundamental literacy and numeracy skills that every child needs to succeed in school and beyond. NAPLAN is a national, consistent measure to determine whether or not students are meeting important educational outcomes.

We have seen another increase in the number of students in the school who received scores in the top 2 bands. Compared to 2019 (the last time in which NAPLAN was conducted), there was an increase of 5.63% (from 54.10% to 59.73%). This is in line with the Premier's Priorities - Increase the proportion of public school students in the top two NAPLAN bands (or equivalent) for Literacy and Numeracy.

Literacy

Year 3

For Reading, 70.12% of students in Year 3 achieved results which placed them in the top 2 bands. For Writing, this percentage increased to 84.18%. Over 80% were placed in the top 2 bands for Spelling and 74.18% for Grammar and Punctuation. Riverbank Public School exceeded the State Average in all tests and exceeded the Statistically Similar Schools Group (SSSG) in 3 of the 4 tests. Spelling saw the greatest increase in the average score – from 465.7 in 2019 to 481 in 2021. However, Grammar and Punctuation exhibited the overall highest average of 482.3.

Year 5

For Reading, 53.31% of students in Year 5 achieved results which placed them in the top 2 bands. For Spelling, this percentage increased to 70.07%. For Grammar and Punctuation, 59.15% were placed in the top 2 bands. RPS exceeded the State Average in all tests and exceeded the SSSG in Spelling. Writing saw the greatest increase in the average score – from 484.2 in 2019 to 510.8 in 2021. However, Spelling exhibited the overall highest average of 551.5. At least 65% of students achieved at or above the expected growth score (across all tests), based on their Year 3 result.

Numeracy

Year 3

59.82% of students (which equates to 198 students) achieved in the Top 2 bands for Numeracy. This compares to 58.33% in 2019. RPS performed better than the State average in Numeracy but below the SSSG average score. RPS's average score was 443.7. In 2019, this was 442.

Year 5

53.71% of students (152 students) achieved in the Top 2 bands for Numeracy. This compares to 41.88% in 2019. RPS performed better than the State average in Numeracy but below the SSSG average score. RPS's average score was 534.4. In 2019, this was 521.6. 69.5% of students achieved at or above expected growth based on their Year 5 result.

Selective High School 2023

Is your child starting Year 7 in 2023? Applications for Year 7 selective high school placement in 2023 open Tuesday 19 October 2021, find out more on: https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7

Back to Basics Uniform Shop

We are pleased to announce that our school uniform provider, Cowan and Lewis, have opened a new retail outlet in Blacktown.

Uniforms can be purchased directly from the retail outlet which is located at 156 Main Street, Blacktown. More information can be found in the attachment. Please note that due to COVID-19 all store visits are via appointment only. Please make your booking through their website www.corwanlewis.com.au

Planning for 2022

I have anticipated a slight increase in enrolments from 2000 to 2050. I will be forming 79 mainstream classes and 3 support classes. If you know our child will not be returning to Riverbank in 2022, please complete the form attached to the newsletter.

I am counting down the days to welcome all staff and students back to school.

What is the approach if parents still do not want children back at school – do schools run both face-to-face and learning from home options?

The best learning environment for students is the classroom. We have worked closely with NSW Health to develop a COVID-safe and cautious plan to stagger the return to face-to-face schooling from 18 October 2021. Once your child's year group has returned to school we will no longer be providing remote learning options.

Have a wonderful fortnight

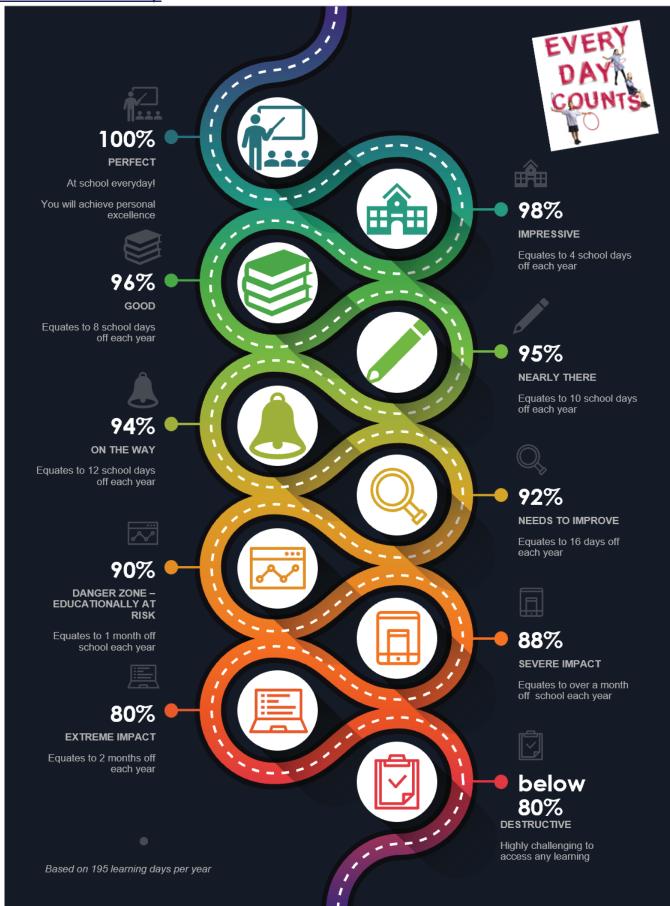
Mrs Jeanie Brown Principal

Canteen News

Our Canteen has a new Term 4 menu and ordering systems. Online orders are preferred for recess and lunch, Birthday Buckets are available and students can purchase limited items at recess and lunch. Please visit the Spriggy Schools app to make an order.

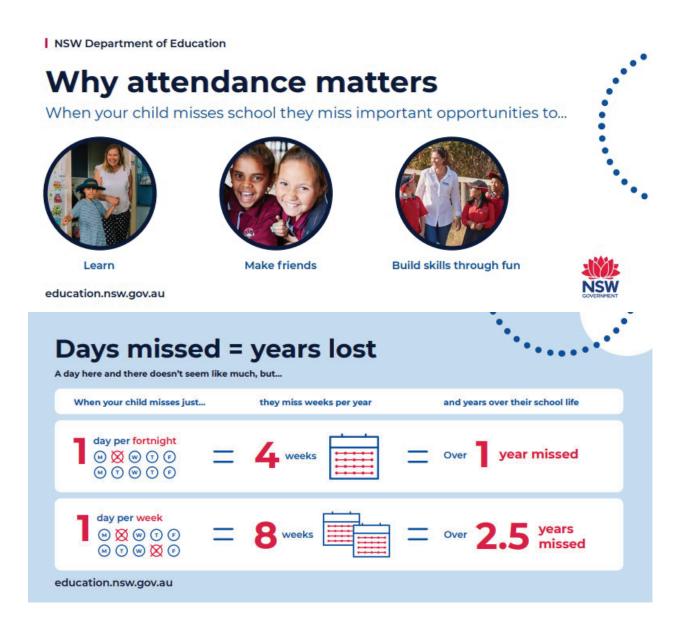


Attendance Road Map



In the gate by half past 8

Parents, we are seeing over 100 students arrive late to school every day. Students are required to be at school before the morning bell and in their class lines by 8.45am. Thank you for your ongoing support.



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School App Tip

Did you know that you can tailor the push alerts that you receive from our school app to the grade/stage your child is in?

Select the cog wheel on the bottom right hand corner and select Newsletters and the grade/stage your child is in to ensure that all relevant communication is received.

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Parent Communication

We use a variety of platforms to communicate information about upcoming events and highlight the great things that happen at Riverbank Public School.

School Enews App

Important notifications are posted and emailed on the School Enews App. School Enews is a free app available for all mobile devices. Just download the app from the App Store or Play Store by searching for Riverbank Public School. Please ensure that push notifications alerts are turned on so that you can receive information as soon as it is distributed.

School Website

Our school website is updated frequently. Some notes such as the Canteen Price List, Uniform Shop and our newsletter are all available online. Our school website is <u>https://riverbank-p.schools.nsw.gov.au</u>

Facebook

Riverbank Public School has its own Facebook page where we celebrate student's achievements. Parents are unable to post any news items, but can comment on reports and photos. The page is designed to keep the community up to date regarding all the wonderful things that happen at Riverbank Public School.

Twitter

In addition to Facebook, Riverbank Public School use Twitter to share events as they happen throughout the school. You can follow us on Twitter <u>@RiverbankPublic.</u>





2020 Hindergarten Information Session

2018 Annual Report



Restorative Practices

Restorative Practices form the relational basis for Quality Teaching and Learning at Riverbank Public School. Our Restorative Practice Framework, because of its explicit nature, offers a common language and practice capable of fostering healthy relationships.

Student achievement is enhanced through Restorative values being embedded as a way of being and learning together. Our approach fosters individual responsibility and helps develop empathy. Inappropriate behaviour or choices and mistakes can be viewed as an opportunity for insight, learning and development in both the academic and social domains.

The explicit framework is inextricably linked to the Quality Teaching Framework and includes the following sets of questions to be asked by children, teachers and parents.

When Things Go Wrong.....When Someone Has Been Hurt

- What happened?
- What were you thinking of at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
- What do you think you may do to make things right?
- What did you think when you realised what happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

The process is empowering as it takes students from the past to the present and gives them hope for the future. It empowers them to make things right and heal any harm that has been done. A restorative classroom setting is one that values dialogue through an inclusive approach where everyone expects to be heard and through this participatory process, students develop the capacity to learn that emotions are an important and legitimate expression of healthy dialogue. This process helps students to deal with conflict, tensions and difference in respectful ways that engender trust and foster healthy relationships.

School Motto

The school's motto, 'Learning to Live, Living to Learn', reinforces a broad and enriching curriculum, which not only focuses on the development of literacy and numeracy skills but also on the social and emotional wellbeing of the students whilst respecting a culturally diverse community.

Riverbank Public School Code of Behaviour

- We share the voice space by listening actively to others and expressing ourselves confidently.
- We follow instructions by being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing.
- We use build-ups by saying encouraging, affirming things to others.
- We keep our hands, feet and objects to ourselves so that everyone is safe.
- We own our own behaviour because we choose how we behave.

Our Help Increase the Peace (HIP) Keys – School Rules:

Our school values will incorporate the 'Help Increase the Peace Keys' to promote a harmonious, nurturing and challenging living and learning environment.

The HIP program offers a whole school approach to building relationships through communication, co-operation, trust building and conflict resolution.



YELLOW KEY Care for Others

GREEN KEY Think Before Reacting

BLUE KEY Respect Yourself

<u>RED KEY</u> Work Together for a Non Violent Way

BLACK KEY Expect the Best

Sport Houses

There are Four Sports Houses that reflect the wonderful view the school has of the Blue Mountains.



Team Name	Named After	Famous For	Team Colour
PIDDINGTON	Mount Piddington	One of the highest peaks and is very famous for rock climbing.	BLUE (for the abundance of Eucalypts that give the mountains their blue colour)
ТОМАН	Mount Tomah	Is very famous not only for its height but the Botanical Gardens.	GREEN (for the gardens)
BOYCE	Mount Boyce	Is almost the highest point in the mountains and is famous for a major Bureau of Meteorology station.	RED (for the flowering red natives: Waratah, Lambertia or Mountain Devil and Red Grevillia)
YORK	Mount York	Is very famous because it is where Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth first saw the western plains.	YELLOW (for the viewing of the western plains by the explorers)

RPS Medical Procedures

Prescribed Medication:

When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers must:

- notify the school
- provide up to date information as required
- supply the medication and any 'consumables' necessary for its administration in a timely way
- complete the Riverbank Public School Medical Permission Note (please see the office for a copy of this note).

The administration of prescribed medication in schools is carried out by staff who volunteer and who are trained. Students must not carry medication unless there is a written agreement between the school and the student's parents/carers.

Individual Health Care Plans:

An individual health care plan must be developed for:

- severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy and anaphylaxis
- any student who is diagnosed as having a condition that may require an emergency response
- any student who requires the administration of health care procedures

If your child has any health conditions and does not already have an existing individual health care plan, please contact the office to collect the required forms.

If your child has an adrenaline auto injector (EpiPen) prescribed by a medical practitioner, an <u>Action</u> <u>Plan for Anaphylaxis</u> must be completed. If the school does not have a current, Action Plan for Anaphylaxis please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

If your child has allergic reactions where no adrenaline autoinjector is prescribed by a medical practitioner, an <u>Action Plan For Allergic Reactions</u> must be completed. If the school does not have a current Action Plan for Allergic Reactions please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

If your child has been prescribed by a medical practitioner as having asthma, an <u>Asthma Action Plan</u> is required. If the school does not have a current Asthma Action Plan please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.



Dropping Off and Picking Up students

A 'Kiss and Ride Zone' or 'Drop-off and Pick-up' area utilises existing 'No Parking' zones around schools. In these areas, drivers may stop to drop off or pick up children, however **No Parking** rules apply:

- Maximum stop time is 2 minutes
- Driver must remain in or within 3 metres of the vehicle
- Vehicle must not be left unattended

Additional safety tips for school zones:

- Always drop-off or pick-up your child from the designated area, following the school's procedures
- Make sure children use the footpath-side door when getting in and out of a car
- Make sure the hand brake is applied when the vehicle is stationary
- Never double park
- Never park across a pedestrian crossing
- Never undertake a U-turn in close proximity to the school.

Safety Tips for Students:

- Stay buckled up until the vehicle has stopped in the 'Drop-off and Pick-up' area
- Make sure your school bag and other items are in a safe position, e.g. on the floor
- Be ready to get out of the car with your belongings when the car has stopped and you have unbuckled your seatbelt
- Always get in and out of the backseat of the vehicle through the safety door the rear footpath-side door.

No Stopping



What does it mean? You cannot stop in this area FOR ANY REASON (including queuing or waiting for space).

Why is it there? Keeps clear sight lines between drivers and children/pedestrians. Penalty \$330 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone)

No Parking



What does it mean? You can stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. If no spaces are available, you cannot queue on the road way or in any other zones while waiting for a space. You will need to drive away and park elsewhere, only returning when there is space to pull up. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

Why is it there? To provide a safe place for children/pedestrian set down and pick up. **Penalty** \$183 + 2 Demerit points (School Zone)

Bus Zone



What does it mean? You must not stop or park in a bus zone for any reason (including queuing or waiting for a space) unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there? To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up school children.

Penalty \$330 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone)

Pedestrian Crossings

You must not stop within 20 metres before a pedestrian crossing or 10 metres after a crossing unless there is a control sign permitting parking. **Why is it there?** To ensure that children can be clearly seen by vehicles approaching the crossing.



Penalty \$439 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone).

Footpaths, Driveways and Nature Strips



You must not stop on any footpath or nature strip, or even a driveway crossing a footpath or nature strip FOR ANY REASON.

Why is it there? You could easily run over a child or force pedestrians onto the road to get around you.

Penalty \$183 + 2 Demerit points (School Zone)

Double Parking



You must not stop on the road adjacent to another vehicle at any time even to drop off or pick up passengers.

Why is it there? Double parking forces other cars to go around you causing traffic congestion and reduces the view of drivers and children crossing the road. **Penalty** \$330 Demerit points (School Zone)

The school is very fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who assist in the safe pick-up of students in this area. Please follow any instruction given to you by these volunteers in order to keep the children safe.



RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL

25 Wentworth Street THE PONDS NSW 2769 Ph: 9626 7511 Fax: 9626 1001 Website: <u>www.riverbank-p.schools.nsw.edu.au</u> Email: <u>riverbank-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u>

Monday 11 October 2021

Return to School Plans

Dear Parents and Carers,

The staff and I are excited about our return to face-to-face learning and welcoming students back to school in the coming weeks.

While we know there is excitement about the return to school, it is important that we adhere to the staged return to provide the school time to be prepared to welcome students back onsite. Students will return to face-to-face learning in the following order:

- from 18 October Kindergarten, Year 1, 1-4J
- from 25 October Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 4-6F and 4-6R

The Return to School Roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order and additional advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent advice on our <u>Advice for families page</u>.

For those families who have siblings across year groups, I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back onsite. But to reiterate the message above – we need this time to prepare our school and operations for having all our students return so it is essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

Where arrangements have been made with the school, students may continue to attend school. If your circumstances have changed and your child can no longer learn from home please email the school to outline when your child will be returning to school.

For the week commencing 18 October, a roll will be marked at the gates each morning to ensure that students are attending on the days that have been arranged with the school.

Masks

NSW Health advice requires that all staff must wear a face mask or covering at all times , this includes in playgrounds and elsewhere on school grounds.

Masks are strongly recommended for primary students. We ask that students bring their own masks to school and have a clearly named zip lock bag in their school bag for masks to be safely stored while students eat their lunch and recess or undertake physical activity. Where possible please label your child's mask with their name and class.





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Student Equipment

Students must bring their own pencil cases and stationery to school. A list of required stationery is attached to this letter.

Students must not bring any other belongings to school. This includes; games, toys, balls or other sporting equipment.

All children should bring a refillable drink bottle to school. We have cool water fountains which can be used throughout the day to refill student drink bottles.

Return to School Plans

Existing infection control protocols at schools, combined with new COVID safety measures will help to maintain the health and safety of our students, staff and school communities.

These include:

- mandatory vaccination of all staff on school site
- mask wearing by all staff
- effective ventilation in all learning spaces, as well as use of outside spaces
- learning in small cohorts, with physical distancing and reduced mixing of students
- minimal onsite visitors
- staggered start, break and end times
- strict hygiene procedures, including sanitiser use and intensive cleaning.

Staggered Start and Finish Times

Normal start times will continue for the remainder of the year. This is 8:45am with supervision provided from 8:15am. Gates will not open before 8.15am and no supervision will be available before 8:15am.

To support a safe pick-up, a staggered finish time will be in place for the remainder of the year. Classroom teachers will make contact with parents to discuss the pick-up arrangements for your child.

Kindergarten (Only Children Families)	2:00pm
Year 1 (Only Children Families)	2:15pm
Year 2 (Only Children Families)	2:15pm
Year 3 (Only Children Families)	2:30pm
Year 4 (Only Children Families)	2:30pm
Year 5 (Only Children Families)	2:30pm
Year 6 (Only Children Families)	2:30pm
All Sibling Families, High School Pick-Up Students, OSHC Students	2:45pm





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Morning Drop-Off

Parents and carers must:

- follow the physical distancing advice for their local area 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 Service NSW QR code if entering the school.

All students must enter through the main yellow gates on Wentworth Street in the morning. As we have a natural stagger of students entering the school from 8:15 – 8:45am we can ensure safe social distancing practices between students.

Students who arrive to school between 8:15am – 8:45am will make their way directly to their classroom in the morning where their classroom teacher will be present to provide supervision.

If your child can safely walk to school please consider either our kiss and drop or park away from the school and have your child walk to school by themselves.

Afternoon Pick-Up

Parents and carers must:

- follow the physical distancing advice for their local area and avoid gathering outside school gates
- remain outside school grounds
- adhere to mask-wearing requirements in accordance with the Public Health Order
- if requiring access to the office please sign in using the Service NSW QR code if entering the school.

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All students who are picked up at a staggered time (2:00pm, 2:15pm or 2:30pm) must be collected by a parent/carer. This must be done via the designated gate (pictured). Parents must wait in their designated

class/grade sections and wait for an executive staff member to call parents to the gate to pick up their child. There will be clear signage along Wentworth Street either on the school fence or on A Frames.

Sibling families will be dismissed at 2:45pm. The eldest children from each family will collect their younger siblings from classrooms before exiting the school through the gate **of the eldest child.**

Children who travel home without a parent will be dismissed at 2:45pm.

Parents and carers must not congregate outside the school gates and follow the directions to support safe drop-off and pick-up procedures. Parents and carers must obey the road rules and parking signs as they are still in operation. Please take care driving in our school zone as more children may be walking or cycling to school.

Designated Gates	
Kindergarten	Yellow Front Gate
Year 1	Top Carpark Gate
Year 2	Back High School Gate on Wentworth Street
Year 3	Top Carpark Gate
Year 4	Back High School Gate on Wentworth Street
Year 5	Yellow Front Gate
Year 6	Yellow Front Gate



Existing OSHC and High School pick-up arrangements remain unchanged.

Kiss and Drop off will only be operational from 2:45pm. If you are collecting your child between 2pm and 2:45pm you will be required to meet your child at the designated gate.

New Students

Designated Gates

If it is your child's first day onsite at Riverbank, they will make their way directly to the school hall on the morning they first arrive to school. Staff will be on duty at the gate and will be available to support your child on their first time walking to the hall.

Canteen

More information about our canteen procedures will be made available this week, including the Term 4 menu and ordering systems. Online orders are preferred, Birthday Buckets are available and students can purchase limited items at recess and lunch.







25 Wentworth Street THE PONDS NSW 2769 Ph: 9626 7511 Fax: 9626 1001 Website: <u>www.riverbank-p.schools.nsw.edu.au</u> Email: <u>riverbank-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u>

Scenarios

Scenarios	
	Children who are picked up by their older sibling from the Ponds High School will be dismissed from their classroom at 2:45pm. They will make their way over to the High School Sibling Pick Up Area and wait for their sibling. Students must leave the school grounds immediately once their sibling has picked them up.
My child goes to OSHC.	Children who attend our onsite after school care will be dismissed from their classroom at 2:45pm. Students will make their way to their designated supervised after school care area. Parents who are picking up students from after school care will pick students up from the gates at Wentworth Street.
My child walks home by themselves.	Children who walk home by themselves will be dismissed from their classroom at 2:45pm. They are to leave the school grounds from their designated gate and must walk home immediately.
My child rides their bike to school.	Children will still be able to ride to and from school on their bike or scooter. If your child will be travelling home from school by themselves then they will be dismissed at 2:45pm. They are to leave the school grounds from their designated gate and must travel home immediately.
I have three children (Year 6, 5 and 3).	If you have multiple children at our school (of any grade combination) they will all be dismissed at 2:45pm. The eldest child will collect their younger siblings from classrooms before exiting through the gate of the eldest child. In this case it would be out of the Year 6 gate. Sibling families cannot leave earlier than 2:45pm.
I have two children (Year 5, Kindergarten).	If you have multiple children at our school (of any grade combination) they will all be dismissed at 2:45pm. The eldest child will collect their younger siblings from classrooms before exiting through the gate of the eldest child. In this case it would be out of the Year 5 gate. Sibling families cannot leave earlier than 2:45pm.
I have two children (Year 1, Kindergarten).	If you have multiple children at our school (of any grade combination) they will all be dismissed at 2:45pm. The eldest child will collect their younger siblings from classrooms before exiting through the gate of the eldest child. In this case it would be out of the Year 1 gate. Sibling families cannot leave earlier than 2:45pm.
My child attends an offsite after school care.	Island OSHC will continue to pick students up from Riverbank Public School. Arrangements have been made for Island OSHC for this meeting point and staff will make sure our Island OSHC students make their way to this meeting point. Island OSHC students will be dismissed at 2:45pm.

RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL



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I am unable to pick my child up until 2:45pm.	We understand the challenges around a staggered finish time and balancing family responsibilities. We appreciate your flexibility to support these plans. If your family circumstances are such that you have been identified to pick up your child at a staggered time, please make arrangements for this to happen.
	If your child is due to be collected at a staggered time before 2:45pm but you are unable to collect them at this time please inform your child's classroom teacher. Your child will remain with their classroom teacher until 2:45pm and will be dismissed at this time. They will need to leave using their designated gate.

What is the approach if parents still do not want children back at school – do schools run both face-to-face and learning from home options?

The best learning environment for students is the classroom. We have worked closely with NSW Health to develop a COVID-safe and cautious plan to stagger the return to face-to-face schooling from 18 October 2021. Once your child's year group has returned to school we will no longer be providing remote learning options.

Children Unwell at School

We ask you to support the safety of the Riverbank community and keep your child at home if they are unwell. Any child showing flu-like symptoms or becoming unwell at school will be sent home. Parents are expected to collect their child once contacted by the school.

COVID Communication

Parents and students will be notified if a decision is made to close the school due to a confirmed case of COVID-19. During this time, we will continue to provide learning from home lessons until we can return to face-to-face learning.

Thank you for working with the school throughout the course of the school term to ensure the safety of all students is paramount when dropping off and picking students up from school.

I have included the link to my recorded presentation outlining the return to school plans.

https://youtu.be/DYWkOh6LMa0

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's return to school.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanie Brown Principal



RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL

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13 October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Non-returning/Late returning 2022

If you know that your child/ren are not returning to Riverbank Public School next year or will be returning after the commencement of the 2022 school year, please complete the form below and return to your classroom teacher. If you have more than one child, please return with your eldest child to their classroom teacher.

The first day for students in Years 1-6 is Tuesday 1 February 2022. The first day of school for 2022 Kindergarten students is Monday 7 February 2022.

Non-returning 2022 - Year 6 please do not complete.

Child 1	of class
Child 2	of class
Child 3	of class
Child 4	of class
Destination school	

Late returning 2022

*An 'APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED LEAVE' form MUST BE completed and returned to the school office by 1 December.

The following child/ren will be returning to Riverbank Public School after the commencement of the 2022 school year.

Child 1	of class
Child 2	of class
Child 3	of class
Child 4	of class

My child/ren will be starting school on the following date _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Term 4

Riverbank Public School

2021

Term Four	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT SUN
Week 1	4 October Labour Day	5 October Students Return (postponed)	6 October Crazy Sock Day (cancelled) Opportunity Class Placement Test (RPS) (postponed) School Photos (Dance and Drama) Back-up date (cancelled)	7 October	8 October	9 10 Oct
2	11 October	12 October Diwali Night – Festival of Lights - CAPA Performances (High School) (cancelled)	13 October	14 October Years 3-6 Const Bollard Parent Cyber Talk 6pm (cancelled)	15 October	16 17 Oct
3 K, 1, 1-4J	18 October	19 October Grandparents Day (online lessons) 2022 Kindergarten Interviews (cancelled)	20 October 2022 Kindergarten Interviews (cancelled) BYOD Information Session – virtual (postponed)	21 October	22 October Kindy Assembly 9am Year 1 Assembly 11:15am (cancelled)	23 24 Oct
4 2, 3, 4,5,6 4-6F, 4-6R	25 October	26 October	27 October	28 October 2022 Kindergarten Transition Session 1 9:15am – virtual Interrelate (RPS) (cancelled)	29 October Year 2 Assembly 11:15am (cancelled)	30 31 Oct
5	1 November Stage 2 Excursion – Brewongle (cancelled)	2 November	3 November Parliament (cancelled) Stage 2 Excursion – Brewongle (cancelled)	4 November Music Count Us In (cancelled) 2022 Kindergarten Transition Session 2 9:15am (cancelled)	5 November Kindy Assembly 9am Year 1 Assembly 11:15am Year 6 Assembly 1:45pm (cancelled)	6 7 Nov
6	8 November Stage 2 Excursion – Brewongle (cancelled)	9 November CAPA Concert Recording 9:30am (cancelled)	10 November Stage 2 Excursion – Brewongle (cancelled)	11 November Remembrance Day - virtual	12 November Welcome Back Morning Tea Year 2 Assembly 11:15am Year 4 Assembly 12pm Year 5 Assembly 1:45pm (cancelled)	13 14 Nov
7	15 November	16 November BYOD Information Session – virtual	17 November Opportunity Class Placement Test (RPS)	18 November 2022 Kindergarten Transition Session 2 9:15am (cancelled)	19 November Kindy Assembly 9am Year 1 Assembly 11:15am Year 3 Assembly 12pm Year 6 Assembly 1:45pm (cancelled)	20 21 Nov
8	22 November K-2 Talent Quest (cancelled)	23 November Years 3-6 Talent Quest (cancelled)	24 November	25 November Year 6 dinner TBC	26 November Speeches for Captains 2022 TBC Tell Them From Me Surveys close	27 28 Nov
9	29 November Celebration of Learning Days (cancelled) Year 6 Camp (cancelled)	30 November Celebration of Learning Days (cancelled) Year 6 Camp (cancelled)	1 December Celebration of Learning Days (cancelled) Last Scripture (cancelled) Year 6 Camp (cancelled)	2 December Celebration of Learning Days (cancelled)	3 December Celebration of Learning Days (cancelled)	4 5 Dec
10	6 December Kindergarten & Year 1 Excellence Assemblies (virtual)	7 December Year 2, 3 & 4 Excellence Assemblies (virtual)	8 December Year 5 Excellence Assembly (virtual) Year 6 Excellence and Farewell Graduation Assemblies (combined, virtual)	9 December CAPA Concert Recording 9:30am (cancelled) House captain speeches 2022 12pm	10 December Reports go home Year 5 Planetarium Incursion TBC	11 12 Dec
11	13 December Class parties (cancelled) Year 5 Planetarium Incursion TBC	14 December Year 6 Fun Day TBC	15 December	16 December	17 December SDD – Visible learning whole staff	18 19 Dec
Hols	20 December	21 December	22 December	23 December	24 December	25 Dec

NSW Department of Education

Roadmap for parents and carers Return to school for Level 3 plus

Information current as at 7 October 2021. Developed in partnership with NSW Health

education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families



In Term 4, schools will return to face-to-face learning either through a 'staged return' or 'full return'.

The best learning environment for students is in the classroom and we are looking forward to welcoming back our staff and students in Term 4. We know that while there will be excitement, there will also be some anxiety and uncertainty about being back together at school.

Recent evidence shows that very little COVID transmission happens between children in school settings, and only a very small number of children who contract COVID-19 get seriously ill. However, to support school safety we are requiring all staff on site to be fully vaccinated, and we are strongly encouraging our students and school community to do the same.

We have worked with NSW Health on our COVID-safe plan to return to school sites and have developed effective practices to support this, including staff vaccinations, mask wearing, reduced mingling of staff and student groups, ventilation in classrooms and continued good hygiene and cleaning. We are confident that this, in combination with support from our school community, will minimise risk and help to keep schools open and students learning face-to-face next to their peers.

How the staged return to school will work

Students will return to face-to-face learning at school in the following order:

- from 18 October department preschool, Kindergarten, Year 1
- from 25 October all remaining year groups.

To maximise the re-establishment of a consistent routine, students who attend schools for Specific Purposes (SSPs) are recommended to return at the same time as students in mainstream settings. Students with disabilities in mainstream classes or support classes can also return as part of the staggered return at the same time as their year groups.

Students completing their HSC can already return in a limited way and this will continue for the first two weeks of Term 4. From 18 October, these students will have full-time access to school campuses and their teachers.

Some schools may have slightly different return to school plans, particularly if they have stage based classes or are very small schools.



All students should be at school on the date indicated for their year group, unless:

- they have a medical certificate which says they can't return to school due to a condition or illness
- they are currently unwell
- they have been asked by NSW Health to selfisolate.





If you are worried that the impacts of COVID-19 or going back to face-to-face learning may be affecting your child's wellbeing, please discuss this with your child's teacher.

You can find more information to help your child's wellbeing through the mental health and wellbeing resources on the department's website.



Break times, dropoffs and pick-ups and canteens

To make sure students reduce the risk of transmission across cohorts, schools will put in place staggered recess and lunch breaks, start and finish times and drop-off and pick-up points.

Students can use the canteen during breaks. This will be different at each school depending on the size of the school, the number of students, traffic flow and other factors.

Creating a safe learning environment

Masks and face coverings

Masks will be mandatory for all staff and all students in Year 7 and above while they are indoors and outdoors on school sites unless eating or exercising. Masks are strongly recommended for primary students both indoors and outdoors unless eating or exercising.

possible, but schools will have back-up supplies just in case.
mpacts of COVID-19 ace learning may be transport for children 13 years and older.

ဂို---ဂို **Physical** distancing

All adults must keep 1.5 metres distance from each other, including teachers and support staff, and parents and carers waiting to collect children.

Students should bring their own masks where

Physical distancing between children in the same class is not required under the latest health guidelines. Mixing between class groups will be minimised and students will be supported to follow strict hygiene practices like:

- regularly washing hands
- not sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into their elbow, or else using a tissue which should be put in the bin straight away
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.



Vaccination

All adults at school sites, including employees, contractors, volunteers and essential visitors, must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by 8 November 2021. Adults that are required to support the staged return to school in October 2021 will be required to have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by that date. For schools under Level 3 settings, adults are strongly encouraged to have had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, but are not required to be fully vaccinated until 8 November.

Students aged 12 or above are now eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination. Parents and carers can book in a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine now.

Vaccination appointments are available at more than 3,000 locations across NSW, including GPs and pharmacies. For students and families who have questions or concerns related to getting vaccinated, refer to <u>NSW Health's Know the facts</u> <u>COVID-19 vaccination fact sheet</u>.

3



Ventilation

Open or well-ventilated spaces reduce the risk of COVID-19. Where possible classroom doors and windows will remain open and fans and air-conditioners will be set to use outside air, where possible.

) Rapid antigen testing

We are exploring with NSW Health the use of COVID home testing kits (known as rapid antigen testing) as a further screening measure to reduce the risk of outbreaks in schools, or the length of time students need to isolate after contact with someone with COVID. Further details will be provided in Term 4.

School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Schools will continue to receive additional cleaning in line with advice from NSW Health.

Schools have received extra supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment and can order more as needed.



School activities

Many school-based activities will remain on hold, including large celebrations such as presentation days and graduations, arts and sports events. For a full list of what is permitted and what is on hold, refer to <u>education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/</u> <u>advice-for-families</u>.



Only essential visitors are allowed on school sites at this time. When dropping off or picking up your child, parents and carers need to stay outside school grounds, you will need to wear a mask and physically distance. Some exceptions may exist for:

- schools for specific purposes
- vulnerable students
- students with disability
- preschools.

In these instances, follow the vaccination and mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the Service NSW QR code when entering the school.

Reporting and assessment

You will receive your child's Semester 2 report by the end of the year. This will be a simplified version of the report you normally receive.

Orientation and transition to school

We have flexible arrangements so that students and parents and carers can still get help with orientation and transition to school in a COVIDsafe way. Kindergarten and Year 7 orientation programs will be possible for schools that are no longer under stay-at-home rules. Transition and orientation programs will be virtual for schools still under stay-at-home rules.



Responding to COVID-19 cases

Where there is a case of COVID-19 in the school community, the department has established systems and protocols with NSW Health to manage and respond accordingly to keep our staff and students safe. These protocols include communication with parents or carers if their child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 while at school or if the school becomes closed.



If your school reverts to learning from home

If schools revert to learning from home due to a Public Health Order or direction from NSW Health or the Department, the school will continue to provide learning activities for your child to do at home and will communicate with you about their learning.

If your child's school needs to revert to remote learning, your school will let families know through the usual channels, which might include email, social media or the school website.

(!)

If your school becomes closed due to a COVID-19 case

Parents and students will be notified when a decision is made to make the school closed for onsite attendance due to a confirmed case of COVID-19 or other events that require the school to close. Information about the operational status of the school will be distributed through the school's information channels, including the school website, Schools Safety App, any school social media channels and the department's website. During this period, the school will continue to provide learning activities for your child to do at home and will communicate with you about their learning. Parents and students will be informed by the department when the school is ready to resume onsite learning.



Get in touch with questions or concerns

Your principal has already started planning for a COVID-safe return at your school, taking into account the unique needs of their students and school. To support this planning, and to allow for your teachers to be fully vaccinated by 8 November or earlier, it is important that students return on the date specified for their year group.

Get in contact with your principal directly if you would like more information about your school's COVID-safe return to school plan or if you have concerns or questions about your child being back in their classroom for face-to-face learning in Term 4.

If you need further information, please call your school. If you need an interpreter to assist you with your enquiry, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. You will not be charged for this service.

Say hello

@NSWDepartmentofEducation

@NSWEducation

@NSWEducation

education.nsw.gov.au

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Learning to Live Living to Learn

Returning to school ...



The world changed a little so we acted together...

...though we had to stay home, we knew it wasn't forever.

We still learnt, laughed and had fun...



...and staying at home helped everyone.

It's time to go back to school.



My brothers or sisters may still be learning from home...



...but that's ok, they will come back to school soon.



My parents will have to wait at the gate.

l will be glad as a friendly face will greet me, so it won't be so bad.

Teachers wear face masks to protect me and you.



Some students will be wearing them too.

There are only some parts of the playground that I can use.



The teachers will show me, so I won't get confused.

Let's wash our hands often and use plenty of soap because on squeaky clean hands the virus can't cope.



Cough into your elbow and sneeze into a tissue, then throw it away and it won't be an issue.

If you get sick, find an adult to tell. We want to make sure everybody is well.



These times are tough, you might be worried and scared, but those feelings are normal and better when shared.





This booklet is a production of Positive Start Transition Handbooks

For more information visit our website www.positivestartbook.com.au

or email contact@alexhemmer.com.au

Cowan and Lewis

BLACKTOWN

Uniform can be purchased from our retail outlet 156 Main Street, Blacktown Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.30pm Saturday 9.00am to 12noon

DUE TO COVID - ALL STORE VISITS ARE VIA APPOINTMENT ONLY

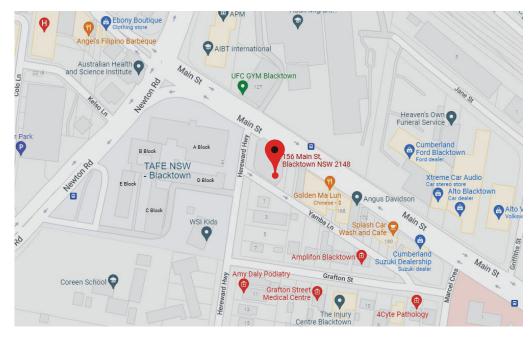
Please make your booking through our website - www.cowanlewis.com.au

Back to School Trading Hours

Back to Basics will be closed from Wednesday 22nd of December 2021 and will reopen on Monday 3rd of January 2022

Trading hours for the month of January 2022 Monday to Friday - 8am to 5pm (Closed for the public holiday - Wednesday 26th of January)

Saturdays - January 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th - 9am to 3pm Sundays - January 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th - 10am to 1pm



Uniforms can now be purchased online at www.cowanlewis.com.au

Order and pay online to have your order delivered to the school FREE of charge

Phone: (02) 4721 7422 basics@backtobasicsschoolwear.com.au



Information Session: Year 7, 2023 Academically Selective AgSTEM Stream



The application process for enrolment in Richmond Agricultural College's **Year 7 Academically Selective AgSTEM** Stream in **2023** will open in mid October.

This will be a unique opportunity as students within this stream will study between the Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Education and Richmond High School campuses.

Year 7 Enrolment will be managed through the Department of Education's High Performing Students team. Entry in Year 7 will be through the Selective Schools Testing process.

Join our Information Session 20th October - 6.00-7.30pm.

Registration via Eventbrite : https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/agstem-selectivestream-2023-information-session-richmond-ag-college-tickets-181403872867

Applications for the Selective Stream open mid October and close mid November 2021 via:

https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/ selective-high-schools-and-opportunityclasses/year-7

SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES WHAT ARE YOU RISKING? *

_|







Term Fee for : \$175

Register now!



0433669334 OR 0433669333

sportsfoundationaustralia@gmail.com

Do you have a shy or anxious c<mark>hild?</mark>

Our after-school online communications classes combine public speaking, creative writing, debating and drama skills to accelerate their development and give them the confidence they need to thrive!



Talent Club

ENROL NOW

Live 1 hour online class per week All skill levels welcome

Ages 5-17