
Macquarie College COVID-19 Update 23 ~ 22 May

1 message

seqta@mc.nsw.edu.au <seqta@mc.nsw.edu.au>
Reply-To: "ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au" <ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au>
To: "ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au" <ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au>

22 May 2020 at 10:20



Good morning Parents and Carers,

Below is a further update from Macquarie College in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Update in Relation to Onsite Learning and MC Cloud

The return of K-12 students to onsite learning this week has been welcomed by staff across the College. The inclusion of government recommendations, which have been covered in past updates and are intended to ensure a safe school environment for both students and staff, have been successfully implemented. The implementation of these recommendations will continue until such time that we are advised by the government that they are no longer applicable.

With the return of public school students to classrooms from Monday 25 May, parents have enquired as to whether or not the MC Cloud program will continue at Macquarie College past that date. Please be assured that, for families which have registered for the program, Macquarie College will continue to operate the MC Cloud platform in its current format for the remainder of Term 2. (A review of the MC Cloud program will be conducted ahead of Term 3).

Social Distancing in Classrooms and on School Buses

The government has provided a specific exemption to schools in relation to social distancing by students in classrooms. This exemption also extends to students travelling to and from school either on public transport and/or a dedicated school bus service. While recommendations have been published to schools across NSW in relation to COVID-19 safe practices within classrooms such as hand washing, additional cleaning protocols etc. this week, specific protocols have also been published in relation to safe bus travel by students.

Such protocols include:

- Each bus, ferry and tram undergoes a daily deep clean and there is additional cleaning throughout the day, with special attention on high frequency touch surfaces
- Mid service cleaning of high touch areas
- Cleaning products and hand sanitisation stations are available in all depots to support our staff in good hygiene practices
- Closing off front seats and Opal readers next to the driver.

Students travelling on buses are encouraged to:

- Follow NSW Health advice
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands frequently
- Allow as much distance from others as possible
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow
- Stay at home and avoid travelling altogether if unwell
- Avoid close contact with staff on board services
- Use of Opal cards so that capacity on board services can be better understood (students who do not use their Opal cards will not be recorded as travelling. Therefore to support the bus companies in understanding actual numbers accessing services and any subsequent planning for additional services, the use of Opal cards by all students is now particularly significant).

With these protocols in place, parents and carers are now encouraged to recommence use of the various bus services to Macquarie College. In instances where families have concerns about the effective implementation of these protocols in relation to the safety and wellbeing of their children

using a particular service, please feel welcome to contact me at principal@mc.nsw.edu.au and I will raise your concerns, as appropriate, directly with the relevant bus company.

June 5 Pupil Free Day

A quick reminder that the pupil free day scheduled for June 5 has now been cancelled. All students K-12 will be required to attend school on that day as per normal.

Car and Bus Lines

With the return of students to onsite learning there has been an increase in families choosing to drive their children directly to school in private vehicles. Trial adjustments have been made to the end-of-day car lines which, at this time, appear to have alleviated delays at student collection points. We also understand that additional delays are now being experienced by families at the start-of-day drop off points, largely due to slow vehicle access to the school site off Lake Road. Trial adjustments will also be made to the drop-off processes in the coming days which will be intended to alleviate the current delays. Thank you in advance for your patience as we work to overcome these traffic flow challenges.

Finally a quick reminder again in relation to the MC COVID-19 Relief Fund. Please continue to contact our Business Manager, Stephen Andrews, at businessmanager@mc.nsw.edu.au, if assistance, via the MC COVID-19 Relief Fund may be beneficial either now or over the coming 18 months in relation to school fees and/or other school expenses.

Macquarie College will continue to monitor the current Government advice in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak and provide further updates as relevant to our community.

Kind regards,

Rohan Deanshaw

Principal

Macquarie College
(02) 4954 6222 | [Website](#) | [Facebook](#)
[182-222 Lake Road](#) (PO Box 517), Wallsend NSW 2287



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