



Update for drop-off and pick-up of children

Dear parents and carers,

The decision to not allow parents on to school grounds was made by the State Government last Friday. This was not a decision made by myself, the school or the Department of Education. What I have been asked to do is make this as easy as possible for children, parents and staff.

My greatest concern of the 'no parent on school site' directive is the safety of your children. Children and cars don't mix and at times the streets surrounding our schools and your homes can be very busy. It is important that everyone remembers this and drives slowly, takes care, looks for children and is patient. Being careless, rushing or thinking that processes don't apply to you will just increase the risks for your children and our staff.

You will be able to support your child before the beginning of term by clearly communicating with them the following:

1. They will have to enter the school and their class by themselves. We will have staff at the Bodley Road and Summerville Boulevard gates to point them in the right direction and observe them as they enter classrooms. We do not have the staff to walk every child individually to their class. Older siblings who attend CVPS are welcome to take their younger siblings to class.
2. Which entrance they will be using to enter and leave the school site. Please communicate this with the classroom teacher via connect just in case your child forgets.
3. How your child is coming to and leaving the school; by car, walking or riding.
4. Whether they are traveling home without an adult.
5. Who will be picking them up.

Since last Friday I have been establishing the number of children who will be attending during the first week of term. Thanks to the phone calls made by a number of our school staff we currently know it will be somewhere between 180 and 200 children each day. That is a lot of children accessing the school from only two main entries and exits at a similar time.

The following will be in place to increase the safety for your children when they enter at the **start of school**:

- Only the entries off of **Bodley Road** and **Summerville Boulevard** will be open.
- The carpark off of Suffolk Street will not be open.
- These entries will **open at 8:15am**.



- The carpark off of Bodley Road will be 'Kiss and Drive' only. Parents are not able to get out of their car. Although this is on the school site I want your kids to be safe. Please use this area as is intended.
- The carpark off of Summerville Boulevard is also operating as a 'Kiss and Drive' area. There are some carparks for those families who need to use them, in particular those parents who have children with additional needs.
- Gates will be closed at **8:45 am**. We will not be as strict with our late process for children who arrive after 8:30 am over the first three weeks. Under the current directives the safety of children is paramount.
- **DRIVE SLOWLY THROUGH OUR CARPARKS.**
- Follow all directions from our staff.

The following will be in place to increase the safety for your children when they leave at the **end of school**:

- The carparks and gates will open at **2:30 pm**.
- Children being picked up by car will be at their designated carpark at 2:30 pm.
- **DRIVE SLOWLY THROUGH OUR CARPARKS**
- Follow all directions from our staff.
- Children walking or riding home with leave at 2:40 pm.

Many parents are understandably worried about their child going to and from their classes by themselves, especially the younger ones. To make this as safe and easy as possible for children the following will be in place:

- There will be a staff member at each car entry and pedestrian gate.
- Teachers will be at the door of their classroom so they can view children making their way to their classroom.
- An Education Assistant will be at the main entries to the Kindy/Pre-primary area and if possible one in the Kindy/Pre-primary playground.
- Older siblings are able to take younger children to class and pick them up when it is time to go home.

We are fortunate to have well fenced and gated school grounds; a reality not every school has. Each of us has a responsibility to not only make the directives sent to us work, but to also achieve them as sensibly and as calmly as possible.

Everything that I witnessed throughout Term 1 gives me full confidence that as a community we can achieve the safe and calm arrival and departure of our children.

Baldja (Firmly United)

George Craig
Principal
24 April 2020