



# RETURN TO FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING FAQ HANDBOOK



21st May 2020

## **Return to school**

From Monday, Week 5, Term 2 (25<sup>th</sup> May, 2020) students at Toronto High School will return to school fulltime. This means they are expected to attend school every day of the week following the Department of Education's usual attendance policy. All students are expected to be back at school unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence. I understand that this is a change, so please, read the attached document and contact the school if you have any questions.

## **What will lessons look like?**

Students in all years will commence usual face to face lessons. They may include the use of technology and CANVAS but online learning for students who do not attend school will not be offered. Teachers will be creating and delivering units of work for face to face delivery. Classes will be usual size and follow the normal school timetable. Students in Year 11 and Year 12 will recommence practical lessons with additional hygiene measures in place as of week 6 and Head Teachers will introduce practical lessons for elective classes and junior classes following DoE approved hygiene measures to each practical subject.

## **Is there going to be sport on Tuesday for Years 9 and 10?**

School sport will be commencing from Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Students in Years 9 and 10 will wear their sports uniform and participate in school-based sport. Sport will not involve going to external providers such as ten-pin bowling. Students are going to be placed in teams and will compete in a range of events such as 'smash cricket', volleyball, Remote Control Car racing, Play Station and Wii e-sports just to name a few. There is no cost. For those families who paid for sport which was cancelled due to COVID-19, we are holding those remaining funds and will allocate them towards a sport choice once 'normal' sport recommences.

School sport will be modified as will PDHPE practical lessons to eliminate contact and semi-contact sports (basketball included) and external providers and venues. There will be hygiene processes in place regarding the cleaning of sporting equipment.

## **What do students need to bring?**

All students are required to bring their usual equipment to school. This includes their BYO device ensuring it is fully charged as well as any other necessary equipment including books and pens. Whilst the school will provide hand sanitiser, paper towels and disinfectant, students are encouraged to bring a personal supply of tissues and hand sanitiser with them.

## **Are the buses and trains running?**

Yes, buses and trains are running. The Department of Education has been guaranteed that all students will be able to utilise their usual buses and trains. Students need to promote social distancing on all public transport. Students will be required to social

distance when lining up and moving to the buses at the end of the day and when walking to and from the station. There is no social distancing on school buses.

### **Can parents drop students to school?**

Yes, however we ask that parents do not enter the school grounds or congregate at the gates. Parents are not permitted to use or enter the school carpark. Parents who choose to drive students to school are safest to drop students in the kiss and go drop offs along Field Ave.

### **How will attendance be recorded?**

Students attendance will be recorded at roll call and the SMS system will be used as it was prior to COVID-19 to notify parents of lateness or absences. Seniors will follow flexible attendance procedures as before the COVID-19. This means they are expected to be at school for roll call and utilise the library for their study lessons.

### **Should students wear uniform?**

Yes. Full school uniform is required. The uniform shop has reopened and is operating. The School Locker is encouraging online ordering. Out usual uniform procedures will be applied from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Will the study classes, Period 0 and Period 6 classes be operating for senior students?**

Yes. It is compulsory to attend.

### **Will the canteen be open?**

Yes, the canteen is open. We still encourage students to pre-order in order to ensure their food is available. Students must follow the social distance guidelines when lining up for food.

### **Will the bubblers be on?**

No. Bubblers will remain turned off. **PLEASE PACK A DRINK BOTTLE!** Water will be available to be purchased at the canteen.

### **Will students be able to take medication at school?**

Students who have completed the necessary paperwork will still be able to take their required medication at school. Our First Aid officer will be present 5 days per week.

## **What's happening with Assessment Tasks?**

- Year 12 have already received their Revised Assessment Schedules.
- Year 11 will be receiving their revised Assessment Schedules during Week 5 (next week).
- Year 7-10 will progressively receive their revised Assessment Schedules subject by subject throughout the next few weeks. Formal assessments will commence at varying times depending on the subject. All years will have a Revised Assessment Schedule Book published by Week 9 Term 2.

All the above Assessment Schedules will be published on the THS Website as well as provided directly to all students.

## **Will I receive a School Report?**

Yes, all students will receive a Semester 1 / Half Yearly report. It is modified and will **not include an A-E grading and a rank**. It will contain additional information relating to online learning and provide information to parents of student attainment in each area of learning. This has been introduced according to the amended 2020 DoE reporting policy due to COVID-19.

## **HSC Minimum Standards Testing.**

Mrs Chapman will be continuing to coordinate this program at school.

## **What will lunchtime and recess look like?**

There will be no sports allowed except for handball in the quadrangle. The oval will be open, but for passive use or walking. There will be no games on the oval (or any other areas of the school).

As mentioned earlier, the canteen will be open and students will be required to follow social distancing markings on the ground in the canteen area.

Students will not be able to use the bubblers. You will need to bring your own labelled water bottle.

## **Personal hygiene protocols for days onsite**

All students will need to sanitise their hands every time they enter the classroom and before leaving in the afternoon. They will be required to wash their hands before and after eating, after coughing or using a tissue. Hand sanitisers have been placed in every classroom. Paper towels and spray disinfectant has been provided for students in each room, to spray and wipe their chair and table down at the commencement of every lesson. Students are responsible for their own health and the health of others around them. We will be taking this very seriously at the school.

## **Classroom and equipment cleanliness**

Students will be expected to wipe down equipment prior to use with the cleaning products provided in each room. Classrooms will be well ventilated with windows open. They will be cleaned and sanitised at the end of each day, ready for the next day. This includes door handles, window handles, desks, chairs etc. There are additional 'enhanced cleaning' procedures and staff at the school.

Students will be expected to clean any equipment prior to use.

## **Toilet facilities and toilet cleanliness**

Toilet facilities will be open and cleaned at the end of each break by the cleaners employed as part of the NSW DoE's enhanced cleaning strategy.

## **Student and staff health**

We are a large school with approximately 1100 students and staff onsite everyday.

No child or staff member who is unwell is to be at Toronto High School. Anyone who is unwell is likely to compromise the health and safety of other students and staff. We are all in this together and we - parents, carers, students and staff – need to be making sensible decisions that consider others. If your child is sick – keep them at home.

Any student who becomes unwell during the day will be isolated and sent home ASAP. The school has strict hygiene measures in place and will take student temperatures if they present to sick bay. We do not have the facilities for unwell students to remain at school until the end of the day. They are to remain at home until they are well. Thank you for your understanding and support on this key matter.

I have asked that staff remain at home if they are sick and not 'soldier on' like many would over the winter flu season. They too have a responsibility to everyone else who attends Toronto High School.

## **What happens if I feel it is best for my child to stay home?**

Usual attendance procedures now apply and parents are expected to provide medical evidence explaining the reason for absence. If there is a serious ongoing medical condition please contact the front office to let us know. **Please note that there will be NO online work** provided for students whose families choose to keep them home from May 25<sup>th</sup> 2020. Students will be marked absent. **The NSW DoE has made it clear that being a 'conscientious objector' and keeping your child at home will not be an accepted reason.**

**Please contact the school ASAP to discuss any concerns.**

## **Parent Visits**

It is important that parent presence within the main part of the school is minimised for the time being. The School requests that parents do not accompany students onto school grounds. Parents waiting for their children at the end of the school day are asked to socially distance themselves from other people outside of their family. All parents are asked not to congregate for any extended period and to maintain social distancing from each other and from staff.

## **When will school return to normal?**

We have moved back to daily operations that resembles normal schooling much more quickly than initially expected. Whilst extra procedures regarding hygiene and WHS processes at school are maintained all staff are working above and beyond normal teaching expectations to make Toronto High School as safe and enjoyable for students as possible. I am unsure how long many of these extra measures will remain in place, however I am sure we will all hear of any changes in policy at the same time through the media.

I can guarantee you all staff are greatly appreciative of the support of the parent community and look forward to teaching their students back in the classroom environment.

I will keep the school community updated as the situation continues to develop.

Thank you again for all your support of Toronto High School throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mark McConville  
Principal