



Term 4 Plan: ACT Public Schools



This plan is subject to health advice at the time. The **health and safety** of students, staff and their families is the priority.

	Commencing Tuesday 5 October (week 1, term 4)	Commencing Monday 18 October (week 3, term 4)	Commencing Monday 25 October (week 4, term 4)	Commencing Monday 1 November (week 5, term 4)
Phased return to on campus learning in ACT public schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 12 students can return from 5 October with a focus on practical classes, and essential exams and assessments. Year 11 students can return from 5 October for essential exams and assessments only when they can not be deferred to week 3. Students should leave the school campus as soon as they have completed on campus activities. Remote learning will continue for all preschool to year 10 students. On campus supervision will continue to be available only for children whose parents are required to work and cannot provide care for their children at the same time, and for vulnerable children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 11 and 12 classes can commence return to onsite learning. Remote learning will continue for all preschool to year 10 students. On campus supervision will continue to be available only for children whose parents are required to work and cannot provide care for their children at the same time, and for vulnerable children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preschool, kindergarten, years 1, 2, 6, 9, and 10 can return to on campus learning. These year groups will also be able to attend their usual out of school hours care programs. Further advice will be provided on how multi-year classes will be supported in early term 4. Teachers will not be required to deliver on campus and remote lessons at the same time. Remote learning will continue for years 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. On campus supervision will continue to only be available for children in years 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 whose parents are required to work and cannot provide care for their children at the same time, and for vulnerable children and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 can return to on campus learning. All students will be able to attend their usual out of school hours care programs. Further advice will be provided in the coming weeks about end of year events, including graduations and formals, as well as transition activities for students in years 6 and 10. Term 4 is an 11 week term for preschool to year 9. Year 10 students finish in week 9. Year 11 and 12 students finish according to their course work and assessment requirements.
General requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccination - All eligible students and staff are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated. Staff vaccination rates will be monitored through de-identified staff surveys. Contact tracing - All staff and visitors must check in using the Check in CBR app. Parents and carers should not enter the school grounds except for an essential reason. Timely and accurate student attendance (roll marking) is to be completed for each class (both online and on campus). Physical distancing and hygiene - All schools will have a completed COVID-19 Safety Assurance Plan and Reopening Checklist. Staff, students and visitors must not attend school campuses if they are unwell and will be sent home if they have symptoms of COVID-19. All staff, visitors and students will be required to physically distance where possible, and maintain appropriate hand and respiratory hygiene. Density quotients will apply in non-student areas (1 person per 4 square metres). Cohorting - Schools will limit unnecessary physical interaction between students on school grounds and the mixing of student cohorts (those not routinely learning together) where possible. This may include staggering breaks and dedicated entry and exit points for different year groups based on school-specific requirements. Student cohorts will have identified shared areas and use of shared spaces will be staggered. Limiting interaction between students does not apply to siblings. Where possible, mixing of staff cohorts will be minimised by assigning or staggering the use of common areas, such as staff rooms and facilities. Masks - Staff and visitors at all schools, and students in years 7-12 must wear a face mask on campus, <u>unless</u> exempt, when eating or drinking, when communicating with a person who is hard of hearing, when exercising vigorously, when outside alone, or in an emergency. Masks may also be removed when performing tasks where wearing a mask may present a health and safety risk, however must be put back on when the tasks are completed. Students in years 3 to 6 are encouraged to wear a mask at school if they are comfortable doing so (at the discretion of the student and their parents/carers). Children in preschool to year 2 should not wear masks as they are likely to be worn incorrectly and may present a choking hazard. Masks may not be suitable for students with disabilities. Schools will make allowances for those students to not wear masks if required. Cleaning - Cleaning plans for each school will ensure regular cleaning of high touch surfaces (such as handrails and desks), frequently used objects (such as desk top computers), common areas, toilets and play equipment. Ventilation - All schools will have been assessed with plans in place to increase fresh air circulation. Ventilation systems will be adjusted to increase the fresh (external) air being supplied to classrooms that are connected to HVAC systems. Classrooms that are not connected to large HVAC systems typically have external ventilation and split system AC units so the fresh air source can be readily controlled. Use of outdoor areas for learning will be maximised. 			

Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting students - Schools will continue to support learning from home for students who are medically vulnerable to COVID-19. Existing processes will be implemented to support students who cannot learn on campus due to illness or medical vulnerabilities. All ACT public school students continue to have access to school psychologists via telehealth. On campus wellbeing and learning supports will return in line with the phased return to on campus learning. • Supporting staff - School staff are essential workers. Children of school staff are therefore allowed to attend their regular public school for on campus supervision in term 4 until their year level returns. All staff have access to priority vaccination and wellbeing supports will be prioritised for staff in term 4. Teachers will not be required to deliver remote and on campus learning to the same class at the same time.
Facilities & hire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community use of school facilities is not allowed, with the exception of out of school hours care providers. • Libraries can open for school use only with strategies in place to minimise multiple classes accessing libraries at the same time. • Canteens can operate with COVID-19 safety measures in place. This will include pre-ordering only with 'click and collect' for high schools and colleges, and contactless delivery to classrooms in primary schools to minimise gathering in canteen lines.
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors are allowed on campus for essential purposes only. Education support office staff should only attend schools for essential services or supports for students and schools. • Parents and carers must not enter school grounds except in the case of an emergency, to provide necessary supports for a child and young person with additional needs (which must be negotiated with the Principal in advance), or as required to sign in or out a student attending out of school hours care. In these circumstances, parents and carers should minimise the amount of time spent on campus as much as possible. Parent/teacher interviews should be held online or over the phone. • NDIS providers/therapists can attend school campuses. • Preservice teachers can undertake placements and clinics. AST, HSC, and IB supervisors can also attend during these exams. • Tradespeople will be restricted from school grounds during school hours where possible. This does not include emergency maintenance and repairs or pre-approved works that are required to continue throughout the day. The use of external trades are subject to the approval of ICW via the relevant ICW Network Officer. • Masks are required for all visitors as outlined above.
Excursions and school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excursions, interschool activities, extracurricular activities and close contact activities such as indoor and contact sports are not allowed. Students will be encouraged to stay seated during classes where possible. • Essential activities that are required as part of curriculum assessments (such as outdoor education) can proceed only when in line with Public Health Directions. These activities would need to be approved by School Operations. • External training and work experience opportunities, including Australian School Based Apprenticeships can be supported in the local community where they are necessary to a student's program of study and operate in line with Public Health Directions. Employers should have COVID-19 Safety Plans in place. These activities would need to be approved by School Operations. • Activities that bring multiple classes or year groups together will be minimised. Where mixing of cohorts is required, this will occur outdoors. • Assemblies are not allowed until further notice. Singing and playing wind instruments can occur in outdoor spaces however audiences are not allowed at this time.
Transitions and end of year events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions activities can go ahead with COVID-19 safety measures in place to minimise movement of students between schools. This may include virtual tours with further advice to be provided in early term 4. • Further advice on end of year celebrations, including graduations and formals will be provided in early term 4 and will be subject to the health conditions at the time.
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AST and other essential exams and assessments will be delivered on campus with COVID-19 safety measures in place. • Teachers will continue to assess learning progress while recognising the context in which learning has taken place. This can include modified assessments and focusing on theory subjects while students are learning remotely. Some practical assessments may wait until students are back at school.