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| Children's Education and Care Assurance |
| 7 May 2020 **Information for ACT education and care services** Today the ACT Government announced that our ACT public school students and teachers will begin a graduated return to the classroom from Monday 18 May.The three stage return of face-to-face schooling is: • From Monday 18 May (week 4 of term 2) pre-school, kindergarten, year 1, 2, 7 and years 11 and 12. College students will attend a combination of on-campus and remote learning, with colleges making arrangements to support learning on-campus for students and subject matter that requires it. • From Monday 25 May (week 5 of term 2) year 3, 4 and 10 students. • From Tuesday 2 June (week 6 of term 2, following the Reconciliation Day long weekend), the remaining year levels of year 5, 6, 8 and 9. Safe and Supervised Sites will cease operation from Friday 15 May. From Monday 18 May, all students who were registered for Safe and Supervised Sites as of Sunday 10 May will be able to attend their usual school, irrespective of their year level, where they will be supervised to engage in remote learning with their usual teachers and classes until their respective year level returns to face-to-face education.We expect families will be looking to recommence their children’s enrolment at their education and care service including out of school hours care programs in line with the staged return of children to ACT classroom education.This will mean that education and care services may experience an increase of families requiring a service. The Education Directorate understands that this may further impact workforce and financial capacity. Providers can apply to the Commonwealth Government for exceptional circumstances supplementary payments and the Education Directorate has written to the Commonwealth Government to advocate for ACT education and care services who require this funding to secure their ability to support staff and continue to meet the needs of Canberra families. Services should prioritise the needs of children already enrolled at their service, particularly those who may be experiencing vulnerability or whose parents are required to be at work at this time.   Earlier today the Education Directorate’s Incident Management Team sent the attached letter to all ACT education and care service providers detailing this information. Education and care providers, service leaders and educators should continue to operate their services in line with current health advice in addition to credible and up to date information such as:  * [ACT Health Directorate](https://health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-system/novel-coronavirus-covid-19#healthadviceforschoolsandchildcarecentres) External Link
* [The Australian Government Department of Health](https://www.health.gov.au/) External Link
* [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee](https://www.health.gov.au/committees-and-groups/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc?fbclid=IwAR3_vRcmA242ywu5SRZIt62w2t0lngvrbkcFpIYhaQtu0IT30OXFjyPme7E)
* [Safe Work Australia](https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/early-childhood-education-and-care-workers-minimising-risk-exposure-covid-19)
* [ACT Education Directorate](https://www.education.act.gov.au/early-childhood)
* [Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority](https://www.acecqa.gov.au/latest-news/coronavirus-covid-19-information-australian-government) External Link
* [The Australian Government Department of Education Skills and Employment](https://www.dese.gov.au/news/coronavirus-covid-19) External Link
* [The ACT Government](https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/) External Link
* [The Australian Government](https://www.australia.gov.au/) External Link
* For general information on COVID-19 call the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080. This line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Education and care providers and service leaders should apply [the COVID-19 pandemic model policy](https://www.education.act.gov.au/__data/assets/word_doc/0007/1535713/Infection-control-during-the-COVID-19-pandemic-model-policy.docx) and adapt this to suit the context of their setting. For enquires in relation to this notification please email CECA@ACT.gov.au. We will respond to your questions as soon as we can and update our frequently asked questions on our [webpage](https://www.education.act.gov.au/early-childhood/information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-for-early-childhood).  For enquires in relation to this notification please call CECA on (02) 6207 1114 or email CECA@ACT.gov.au.This email has been authorised by the ACT Regulatory Authority (CECA). CECA are responsible for administering the National Quality Framework within the ACT. |

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