



COVID-19 SAFETY

PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

As outlined in *The Hutchins School: Returning to school safely* information already sent, in order to minimise the risks of infection, **parents and carers will not be allowed to enter any part of the School site without a prior appointment made through our Reception staff.** We are also staggering finish times to allow for less congestion and to help with adhering to physical distancing recommendations. For Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in particular, this will mean some changes to the way boys are dropped off and collected.

Mornings

The ELC carpark will become a **stop, drop and go** zone. Familiar staff from your son's class will be on hand each morning to greet your son at the entrance to Outside School Hours Care. They will help him to sanitise his hands upon entry to the building, sign him in and walk him to his class. We appreciate that this may be difficult and have strategies to support your son to say goodbye outside the building. Kindergarten staff will be posting a video on Seesaw later this week to help your son understand the changes. We encourage you to spend some time with your son watching the video and talking about the new routine if you feel this would benefit and alleviate any anxieties.

We understand that parking to help your son out of his car seat will be needed. We anticipate that you may need to circle the parking area before a space becomes available and thank you in advance for your co-operation and patience as we transition to this new drop off routine.

We ask that families who do not have older sons requiring an earlier drop off, to please arrive as close to 8.40am as possible.

Afternoons

We will have a staggered pick up time for the afternoon as follows:

- **Pre-Kinder: 2.00pm**
- **Kinder P: 2.15pm**
- **Kinder D: 2.30pm**

For afternoon pick up, we ask that you clearly display the name card previously provided on your car dashboard to assist staff in quickly identifying you. Your son will then be brought to your car. We ask that you then place your child in his car seat yourself. If you require a replacement name card for your car, please email ELC Reception at sarah.hugo@hutchins.tas.edu.au.

We are aware that there is a potentially significant time difference between your Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten child finishing and older children finishing. If this presents a problem for you, please contact Outside School Hours Care at oshc@hutchins.tas.edu.au.

For late drop off or early pick up of your child, please call 6221 4313, and your child will be collected at the upstairs door or brought to the door in the case of early pick-up.

Illness

Due to a heightened sense of concern and the need for vigilance around transmission of illness, children who are even very mildly unwell *must be kept at home* until fully recovered. If your son shows any signs of being unwell while at school, you will be contacted by phone and he will need to be collected immediately.

Hygiene

A hand sanitising station is at the entrance to the ELC building. We also have hand sanitiser in our rooms. We have additional hand washing (with soap) in our daily routine, and additional classroom cleaning and sanitising of resources. Children will be monitored by staff during all handwashing.

Mealtimes

Morning tea and lunchtime will be staggered to ensure less physical contact between the boys. We have decided to no longer have shared fruit in the afternoon.



Library books

Please place the library books that went home in the first home pack in your son's bag on his first day of school. Returned books will be separated and quarantined for a day, as advised by peak library organisations, before being placed in the library for any further borrowing.

Fees

The Government subsidisation of Child Care continues through to the 28 June 2020. Until this time, all of your Before and After School Care, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten fees are entirely covered by the Australian Government. Hutchins will continue to offer free care beyond this date until the end of Term 2. You will pay no fees until 6 July 2020.

Canteen

Canteen ordering for lunches will be available from Monday 25 May for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students. As noted in previous EdSmart advice, the canteen will be cashless and orders will need to be placed via the Flexischools App.

Ms Naomi Pritchard-Tiller
Director of Kindergarten

21 May 2020