



## Kindergarten 2022 Q and A

### Responses to Questions from Parents

FAQs	Responses
What does the start of school for 2022 look like?	With regard to the formalities of dates and what starting school will look like for next year we are still awaiting advice from the Department of Education so if we are unable to have onsite visits this year we may for our first few days at school will organise the children into coloured groups. The kindergarten teachers will observe your children and get to know them before we form classes to ensure each class is balanced academically, socially and has an even range of age and gender. We are really fortunate with our learning spaces at Manly Vale, our kindergarten classes work collaboratively every day. We have big sliding doors between classes which are opened regularly and we spend time with the whole grade for sport and music. We cannot guarantee your child will be in the same class as someone in particular, however we can guarantee they will still spend lots of time together learning and playing. These details will be communicated to you via email once we know the guidelines closer to the date. A lot of planning and information goes into making our classes so we don't want to rush this process. The current kindy team will also contact all our local feeder pre-schools to connect and find out about each student in their care. This also helps us form our kindergarten classes.
When will the kindy's start compare to other classes?	This will be dependent on the guidelines. Kindergarten have Best Start assessment which usually happens in the first 3 days after our SDDs so they usually start after that.
Can you advise around school uniform?	In your goodie bag there is a flyer all about our school uniform, what is required and how to order it.
Can you advise on start and finish times?	Our current start time is 9am with supervision commencing from 8.40am and school finishing at 3pm. For the first week school finishes at 2.50pm for Kindergarten. Starting school information will be sent to you closer to the date and when we know our guidelines around covid.
Can you request your child to be in class with a specific other student?	We cannot guarantee any of your requests. We will do our best. As mentioned we are an open plan school where lots of team teaching between classes occurs so the students will often co-learn together.
What is the uniform policy? And where do we source uniforms?	Please see the uniform flyer. Full school uniform is required each day. Students will have a sports day each week where they can wear their sports uniform.
Can you advise around bus options for those that live on Quirk Road?	Please refer to our Bus Route Information which can be found on our website. Follow the link below. <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/school-bus-route-manly-vale-public-school">School Bus Route - Manly Vale Public School (nsw.gov.au)</a>

How many classes will there be in kindergarten?	Historically we have 4 classes with an enrolment of 80. This number is dependent on how many kindergarten enrolments we have. Currently we have 78 enrolments.
What time is drop off and what time is pickup?	See response above.
Do kindy students eat their morning tea and lunch on their own, or with other years?	K- 2 students eat and play together currently however the guidelines when we go back for this year is to learn, eat and play in cohort group. When school starts Kindergarten tend to eat and play together for the first few weeks to explicitly teach how and where we can play and learn to play and eat with each other. After this they start to eat and play with the other K-2 students.
Do the kindy's start with a full week at school, or half a week or half days?	Kindergarten usually start 4 days after all other grades at the beginning of the year. Their first week of school is an early finish at 2.30pm (30min earlier than usual finish time).
What access do parents have to teachers?	Parents are always able to email the class teacher via the school. Teachers will always get back to parents as soon as they can as during the day they are teaching your children and possibly on a playground duty. Parents can also message teachers via the SeeSaw app.
What is the homework policy at the school?	This is also on our website. For Kindergarten there is no formal homework we just ask for daily reading of 10 minutes.
What are the class maximum sizes?	The Department of Education give schools a guide of around 20 for Kindergarten but this is dependent on how many enrolments in the area. We currently have 19-22 in each class. We will often get enrolments throughout the year as well.
If there are a few children from the same day care attending the school, will they be put in the same class so they have some familiar faces on day 1?	We try to keep some children together from each daycare but as we don't know which days each child attends they may not be a familiar face. We are guided by the preschools with children that work well together or may need space from each other. As mentioned by do a lot of co-teaching so children spend time learning together often.
What is your bullying policy?	Bullying is a concern to all parents. Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated at Manly Vale Public School. Bullying thrives on secrecy, so students are encouraged to tell if they feel unhappy or unsafe. The school works very hard to maintain a happy and safe environment. Please see the detailed Bullying Policy by following the link below. <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/school-policies">School Policies - Manly Vale Public School (nsw.gov.au)</a>
What will the first few weeks of the term look like for kindergarten? Will they be assigned a teacher prior to	We would love to be able to tell you what the first few weeks will look like but the advice from the Department is

<p>starting and know any other details like a buddy program? On their first day of school are parents allowed to accompany them to get settled? How are drop-offs structured for kindergarten?</p>	<p>often changing. Children will have a transition buddy assigned to them that will write them a letter which we will post over the holidays and be there on their first day. Parents usually are allowed to drop off to child for the first week but the current advise is no parents are allowed on site.</p>
<p>Hi MVPS, I know you will be guided by the department on this but I'd like to know what you think a Covid safe school environment will look like next year? I feel very apprehensive about sending my child to school especially if numbers remain high. Will children of unvaccinated families be allowed to attend? Will those children be required to have frequent testing to ensure the safety of others? Will there be at home learning available for those who don't feel comfortable sending their children? Or should we look at other home-schooling options? Thankyou</p>	<p>This is a tricky one to answer as the advice may change for next year. The best source of advice for parents about the return to school can be found at: <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families#Roadmap0">https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families#Roadmap0</a> With regard to home learning provided to those children who don't want to come to school due to covid numbers and schools are open for face to face learning, schools will not provide learning from home tailored like the current program. Parents will be directed to the learning from home hub and units of work developed by the Department of Education.</p>