

Acacia in Action

Respect Collaboration Integrity Understanding Adaptability 1st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very positive start to Term 2, with now over 70% of our students happily back attending school face-to-face supported by our great staff team. We hope that very soon, all students will be back at school, with the exception of those who are unable to attend for medical reasons.

We also appreciate that families are keeping children home if they are sick.

NT Roadmap to the New Normal

Yesterday, the Honourable Michael Gunner MLA, Chief Minister for the Northern Territory, announced the ["Roadmap to the New Normal"](#) and the pathway to easing restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are very fortunate in the Northern Territory to be in such a good position, when, as we all know, the situation is still quite dire in many parts of the world. In the NT:

- no new cases of COVID-19 since 6th April
- all cases were related to overseas or interstate travel
- 25 of the 28 cases in the NT have recovered
- no local transmissions
- strict border controls remain in place
- extensive COVID-19 testing. There is now 'enhanced testing' including anyone with any COVID-19-like symptoms, just to be sure there are no cases lurking under the radar.
- almost all Territorians have been very cooperative and responsible with restrictions, including physical distancing.

Schools after 1st May

NT schools will consider any opening of restrictions carefully, so for the time being, we will continue to operate as we have been: swimming lessons at the Alice Springs Aquatic Centre and excursions are still on hold, and we continue to minimize adult visitors during school hours, including allied health specialists. We are likely to have information about easing of some restrictions after 18th May. At Acacia Hill School, we continue to have enhanced hygiene practices – many of which are 'business as usual' for us anyway:

- routine hand washing by all children and staff members, before and after class and before and after meal breaks
- water fountains are only used to fill water bottles, not for direct drinking from taps
- food or drink is not shared

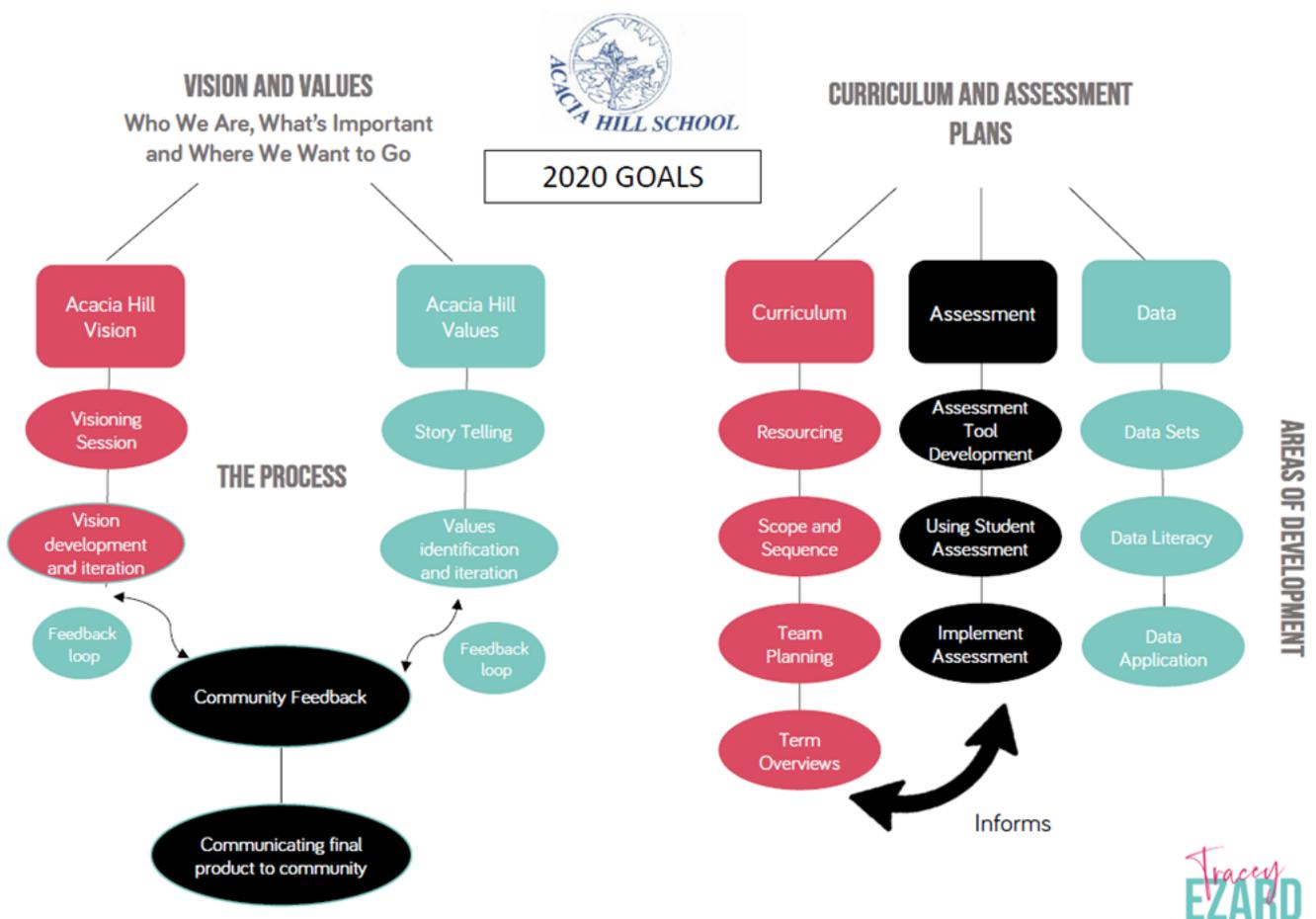
- routine cleaning of all high-touch places such as door handles, handrails, light switches, keyboards, mice, and play equipment
- as far as possible, avoid handshaking, hugging and kissing, or games that include holding hands or other physical contact
- assemblies held on Skype or Zoom
- workmen are requested to come to the school after 3:00pm.

Hand sanitizer station set up at front entrance to the school.



Acacia Hill Annual School Improvement Plan (ASIP) 2020

We continue to work with Tracey Ezard by Zoom on our 2020 ASIP, particularly on bringing in the voices of current staff, students and school community to generate a new shared Vision and Values. Together, Tracey and the leadership team developed this infographic for our 2020 ASIP goals:



Kind regards,

Julie Permezel
Principal



Students enjoyed a cool Thursday morning with an AFL workshop run by our PE teacher Rohan. Many staff joined in on the fun including our Principal, Julie. Exercise promotes good health for the students; helping students to become focused in class, team-work and problem solving. Having children from all age groups participating and engaging together helps grow healthy relationships within our school.

Just a reminder for all carers and families that the Back to School vouchers have been extended into **Term 2!**

Staff members have been contacting carers/families that have not yet used their vouchers. If there is any remaining funds left on the voucher you can nominate to have it put towards funds for the Hydrotherapy Program at our school.

Dates Coming up

- ◆ 4th May - Public Holiday
- ◆ 10:00am Friday 8th May - School Council Meeting
- ◆ 10:00am Friday 12th June - School Council Meeting

Allergy Alert: students at Acacia Hill have nut allergies and other serious eating conditions