Our CBR



Gungahlin

FEBRUARY 2022 INSIDE THIS EDITION

▶ Book your COVID-19 booster vaccination now

Throsby School opens its doors

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 $Sam\ and\ Mounica\ with\ their\ daughter\ Sandy,\ who\ is\ excited\ to\ attend\ her\ new\ school\ in\ Throsby\ this\ year.$



Message from the Chief Minister

The pandemic isn't over so it is more important than ever before to get your booster shot.

The ACT Government's mass vaccination clinics are being scaled up to vaccinate 32,500 Canberrans each week. Pharmacies and GPs are vaccinating a similar number.

If you're a parent or carer of a child aged 5-11, book them in for a COVID-19 vaccine.

Vaccination remains the most effective way to reduce the severity of disease and transmission of the virus.

Andrew Barr











Our COVER STORY

Throsby School opens its doors

More than 185 students will walk through the doors of Canberra's newest - and 90th public school this week for the start of the 2022 school year.

Sandy is starting kindergarten at Throsby School this year and is excited to explore her new school and meet her teachers and new friends.

"We're looking forward to this new school that will be filled with fun and excitement for Sandy," said Sam, Sandy's dad. In coming years, Throsby School will grow to accommodate 450 kindergarten to year 6 students and 132 preschool students.



COVID-19 vaccines for kids

COVID-19 vaccines are available for children aged 5 to 11 years old.

The vaccines can help protect your kids for the new school year and can be booked through ACT Government COVID-19 vaccine clinics, GPs and pharmacies.

Have a chat with your trusted health care provider or visit the ACT Government's COVID-19 website for more information.







Get your COVID-19 booster vaccination

MONTHS

If you had a second COVID-19 vaccine dose three months ago, you are now eligible for a booster dose to increase your protection.

The ACT Government has accelerated the COVID-19 vaccination program through expanded capacity at the AIS Arena and the re-opening of the Canberra Airport vaccination hub to deliver more doses every day.

COVID-19 booster vaccinations are available for people aged 18+ at participating GPs, pharmacies and ACT Government COVID-19 vaccination clinics. If you have any questions, speak to your GP or another trusted health care professional.

To book your appointment at an ACT Government clinic call 5124 7700, between 7am and 7pm every day or visit covid19.act.gov.au/vaccine for online booking options.



Garran COVID-19 Clinic changes

A new dedicated clinic for people who are COVID-19 positive is now open at the Garran COVID-19 Surge Centre.

> The clinic provides health care for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and who need treatment for other non-life threatening injuries or illnesses. The clinic also provides patients who are COVID-19 positive with in-person support and

> > advice as they manage their symptoms during the illness. COVID-19 testing will continue to operate separately at the facility.

Open seven days a week from 7.30am to 10pm. Free service, no appointment is needed.

Work continues on local school expansions

New learning spaces being built at Gungahlin schools will accommodate more students and meet growing demand in the region.

The Amaroo School and Gold Creek School senior campus expansions are due to be completed this year and will each provide an additional 200 student places.

Amaroo School upgrades include new food technology classrooms and an adaptable performing arts space.

Gold Creek Senior campus is getting a new student services area, along with extensions to learning areas.





More peak hour light rail services

There are now more light rail services connecting the city to Gungahlin in the afternoon peak hour. Peak services on weekdays now run until 7pm.

More services also run on Sundays, every 15 minutes from 7am, until 11.30pm.

Gold Creek teacher's focus on wellbeing



Your 2022 public transport, cycling + walking guide

Consider leaving the car at home more often and taking public transport, riding, walking or scooting in 2022.

It's better for the planet, reduces your time spent in traffic and helps you save on parking fees.

Public transport options

Local bus services

- ▶ Operate every 30 minutes or less on weekdays, connecting the region's suburbs to local shops and Gungahlin Town Centre.
- ▶ Takes you from Gungahlin Bus Station to Belconnen in 20 minutes with Rapid R8's frequent 7am-7pm weekday service.

Light rail services

- ▶ Take only 24 minutes to get from Gungahlin to the City.
- ▶ Operates every 5-6 minutes (peak periods) or 10-15 minutes (off-peak periods) on weekdays, and every 15 minutes on weekends.



Get a discount

Want to save around \$300* a year on your fares?

Travel is cheaper with MyWay and there's further discounts for travel during off-peak times. Discounts apply 9am-4.30pm weekdays, after 6pm and all weekend. Save an extra 5% with autoload. Off-peak travel is **FREE** with a Seniors MyWayCard.

*Based on an adult fare, travelling five days a week, all year round.



Park and Ride

Enjoy free parking at one of three Gungahlin Park and Ride locations (refer to map overpage), which are located near Rapid bus or light rail services for your convenience.

Cycling and walking

Take advantage of the scenic cycle routes that connect Gungahlin to neighbouring town centres, including:

- ▶ C1 (Gungahlin to City)
- ▶ C7 (Gungahlin to Belconnen)
- ▶ C9 (Gungahlin to Airport)

Bike rails and bike cages are located at many public transport stops and stations. You can take your bike onboard the light rail or use the bike racks on the front of buses.

E-scooter expansion

Keep an eye out for e-scooters as they expand into Gungahlin in 2022. They are convenient, accessible, environmentally friendly and fun. E-scooters are perfect for shorter trips and for connecting to the bus or light rail.

We're going electric

New electric buses are joining the fleet this year as part of Transport Canberra's transition to a zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040.

Enlighten Festival is back!

Over 17 days 5 major events

Canberra will shine bright with culture and creativity during March as the Enlighten Festival returns with five major events. All attendees are asked to abide by ACT Public Health Directions in place at the time of the event, and <u>practise COVID-safe</u> behaviours while attending Enlighten Festival.

- **▶** Illuminations
 - **4-14 March:** see the capital's most iconic buildings light up with projections.
- ▶ Lights! Canberra! Action!
 11 March: applaud local creativity as the spotlight shines on local filmmakers.
- Symphony in the Park
 13 March: sit back and enjoy the Canberra
 Symphony Orchestra in Commonwealth Park.
- Canberra Day festivities
 14 March: celebrate Canberra Day with an array of festivities.
- Canberra Balloon Spectacular 12-20 March: watch the skies fill with colour at this annual favourite.





Royal Canberra Show returns with less plastic

The Royal Canberra Show is returning this month, welcoming back visitors while reducing single-use plastics.

Single-use plastic straws, bowls and takeaway containers will be banned when the show returns from 25-27 February 2022 at Exhibition Park.

Its transition to sustainable items goes beyond the current Canberra-wide ban on single-use plastic cutlery, drink stirrers and polystyrene containers.



Surface Festival to bring colour to the streets

The ACT's first urban street art festival is taking place on **4-6 March.**

Surface Festival will see local and interstate artists transform blank surfaces in the City into colourful urban creations. It will also feature workshops, tours and satellite events across Canberra.

40km/h school zones reminder

40km/h school zones are back in place with young Canberrans returning to school. Remember to slow down, stay alert and help keep them safe.













Your 2022 public transport, cycling + walking guide



How you can leave the car at home more often and take public transport, ride or walk in 2022.

