



**UPDATE # 13 - This information was last updated and is current as at Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

## COVID-19 TERM 2 UPDATES – WEEK 7

Dear Parents/Carers

**As of Monday, 8 June 2020, the latest Health advice and current Term 2 arrangements have been reviewed. The changes to our school procedures are outlined below in the form of frequently asked questions.**

**We also hope that all families enjoyed the video that accompanied this document. It can be viewed here and is message to all families from our students and myself.**

<https://vimeo.com/426307117>

### FAQ'S

#### **1. Can parents enter the school site with their child?**

- Yes as of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June parents are welcome back on site to attend pre-arranged meetings and for drop off and pick up purposes.
- The total number of parents on school grounds should not exceed 100.
- Physical distancing of one person per 2 square metres and good hygiene practices apply.
- Parents are asked to refrain from enter classrooms to support hygiene practices and school cleaning processes.
- Parents are requested to contact teachers to deliver messages via a phone call or email
- We request that parents have conversation to organise 'play dates' and other social activates outside of the school gates.

#### **2. Do parents have to sign in and out at the school office?**

- Yes if they are visiting the school at any time other than at the start and end of the school day for drop off or pick up.
- Parents are required to sign in and out of the office if attending the school for a meeting with the classroom teacher recording the classroom being visited.

#### **3. Are parents allowed in the classroom?**

- Students have become very independent over the last couple of weeks and as such we ask parents to refrain from entering the classroom so students can continue to develop these wonderful independence skills.
- By refraining from entering the classroom parents are also supporting our cleaning practices as every area that is visited by a parent or visitor to the school requires extra cleaning at the end of the meeting.

#### **4. What gates can parents and children use?**

- There is no longer any restrictions on which gates must be used.
- Choose a gate that is convenient but also does not look too crowded.



#### 5. Who else is allowed on site?

- All visitors with appropriate purpose are allowed on the school grounds
- All parents and visitors are required to sign in and out at the school office as per Department of Education guidelines.
- Physical distancing with a one person per 2 square metres and good hygiene practices apply.

#### 6. Can parents continue to pick up and drop off at the gate?

- Yes this is encouraged.

#### 7. Will siblings still be released early?

- Yes siblings will be released at 2:10pm for those being picked up via car. Those that are walking home will be released at the same time as the rest of the school – 2:20pm.

#### 8. What are the car park and Kiss and Drive arrangements?

- Parents are asked to continue to exercise patience and courtesy in the carpark.
- If your child is not at the main gate in one or two minutes of you pulling to the front of the line you are asked to park in a car bay or drive around again so that we can keep the traffic flowing.
- Students are not to walk down to the bottom of the path to get in a vehicle unless directed by a teacher – this slows up traffic when children are entering and exiting vehicles.
- Students should exit and enter the vehicle on the foot path side.
- Students must use the designated crossing areas and not run across the car park. If they need assistance to cross staff are there to help.
- If parking please adopt the north-west protocol of reverse parking.
- Parents can also park across the road on the gravel – many parents find this assists with a quicker exit.

#### 9. Will assemblies recommence?

- Unfortunately due to the restrictions on gatherings and the size of our school population assemblies cannot recommence in the traditional format.
- Assemblies will be hosted via Zoom and video clips and merit certificate photos will be posted on Seesaw.

#### 10. What about camp? Will the year 6's be allowed to go to camp?

- This is still to be determined.
- The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) has stated that boarding facilities pose higher COVID-19 risks than the school environment, which means protection measures need to be greater at school camp sites than in schools.
- The school needs to carefully consider its ability to enact these measures off of school site and parents will be advised soon as to the result of these considerations.

#### 11. Will the canteen accept cash payments and can parents volunteer?

- The canteen is operated by the P&C and they have informed the school that payment will be required by Flexischools or card – this can be facilitated over the telephone.
- Yes, parents can volunteer to work in the canteen – good hygiene practices and physical distance guidelines apply.



**12. I have been unable to travel out of the Pilbara for so long and we need to take Friday off for a long weekend – is this ok?**

- No this is not supported.
- The Department of Education has stated that attendance is compulsory and are carefully monitoring attendance at all schools. Schools are being asked to submit daily attendance returns.
- Whilst we understand the sentiment expressed in the question we have noticed that our attendance rates have dropped significantly on the last three Fridays. This is frustrating for teachers but more importantly disrupts your child's education.

**13. Will my child receive a school report?**

- Yes these will be emailed to all families on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June.
- Parents are requested to make sure email addresses are up to date on the school data base.
- As per advice from the Department of Education schools are not required to provide grades due to the disruption to teaching and learning programs and inability to provide equitable assessment for those students learning at home. Reports will however provide parents with information about students' learning progress in the form of comments. As always teachers are available for interviews to discuss your child's progress. This can be via appointment or Zoom video.

**14. Will specialist programs such as Choir, Enrichment, PEAC, STEM and Learning Club recommence?**

- Yes
- If your child is involved in these programs you will be contacted via the coordinator.

The State Government will continue to make decisions based on the best health advice. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward.

If you have any questions, please to contact the school office on 9172 8400, [baler.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:baler.ps@education.wa.edu.au) .

Kind regards

Karen Burgess  
Principal