



PO Box 1908
BUNBURY WA 6231

T: 9721 2660
W: bunburyyps.wa.edu.au

An Independent Public School

TERM TWO PLANNING FOR LEARNING UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are undoubtedly aware, the parameters around planning for Term 2 have changed since my first letter to you. With the government moving from asking parents of non-essential workers to keep their children home for the start of this term to saying all parents can choose to send their children to school if they want – our planning and organisation needed to change.

Thank you to all the parents/carers that responded to their child's teacher request about attending or not. It has been very helpful in re-organising what we will be doing at school. I know that there are parents/carers who are unsure about sending their children to school or have not yet responded. You are able to change your mind, either way, at any time. If you start at home and then decide to send your children, please make sure that they bring their work package to school.

The government and the Department of Education have set some rigid requirements around schools being open to students. I have listed a few of the key requirements below with an explanation of how it will look 'on the ground'. These plans will be reviewed regularly, in order to ensure they are working as intended, and adjusted as needed. With guidelines saying parents/carers not entering the school site there are issues with congestion, particularly at departure time. If one thing is certain, it will be that the best laid plans do not always work as intended.

Requirement	Implementation Plan
When coming to school, children are to be dropped 'at the school gate'	<p>This means that parents/carers do not come to classrooms. Children need to arrive at school between 8:30 and 8:50. This does create issues for the younger children and I hope the following will deal with this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K children will be met by Mrs Elstermann near the basketball court and guided up to the classroom where the Education Assistant will help them. • P children will meet with their teacher in a taped area near the Pp classrooms (you can walk them across the oval) • Year 1 and 2 children can be dropped at the Reading Street steps, where they will be met by their teacher or education assistant or can go directly to their room. They can also be dropped at the front of the school and walk to their class if they are happy to do so. • Year 3 - 6 students can be dropped off, or walk in, and make their way to their class.
When picking up children at the end of the day they are to be picked up 'at the school gate'	<p>In order to manage this, certainly to begin with, we plan to have staggered finishing times so that we can manage groups of children leaving. This will be challenging and will require parents/carers to have some flexibility. Children will be picked up in their family groups based upon the time set for the youngest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:30 – K and P children and siblings (from where the drop-off point is)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:45 - Yr 1 and 2 children and siblings either meet parents/carer at front of the school or picked up from the Reading Street Kiss and Ride • 3:00 - Yrs 3 – 6 children either exit the school or are picked up at the Kiss and Ride
Illness (NOT just Covid-19)	If your child is unwell they must not come to school. This is a normal expectation, but in this time of uncertainty the reaction by others toward a child with sniffles, coughs or sneezes will be exaggerated and could upset your child. Children who are unwell must not be at school.
Face to Face Teaching	Your child's teacher will be teaching their usual class. Children doing home learning will have some contact with their regular teacher.
Additional Cleaning	The school will have a cleaner on-site throughout the day who will be cleaning high touch areas around the school on a cyclic basis. We are developing a schedule to see if the required items can be cleaned as regularly as required in the time available. Some cleaning in classrooms (desks, computer keyboards, etc.) will be managed by classroom staff.
Play Equipment	At this point in time, playground equipment will remain off-limits whilst we determine the viability of regular spraying and the time to do this. The equipment should not be used out of school hours.
Soap and Sanitiser	Soap will be available in toilets and alcohol based hand sanitiser will be available in classrooms. If your child has an allergy to these things please advise their teacher and provide them with an appropriate alternative.
Drink Fountains	Even though drink fountains will be regularly cleaned, they should only be used to fill water bottles. Children need to have a water bottle at school (preferably left at school).
Library Borrowing	Children will be able to borrow books from the library as of next week.
Social Distancing	It has been determined by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) that there is no need for the 1.5m separation (social distancing) to be required by children. It is still in place for adults. Physical contact (particularly through play) is still discouraged.

All of the above reflects how we will try and make the return to school safe for the children and safe for the staff. This means that we need to change how we do things and parents and carers need to change as well. We need to work together on this as a community and understand that there is a purpose behind all that is done (particularly those things we are doing differently).

I can only ask for your understanding and acceptance of the changes, with the knowledge that we are doing the best we can to meet guidelines in a manageable way.

Kind Regards,
Shane Doherty
Principal
April 28 2020