

Week 7 Changes at School and More

Dear Parents and Carers,

With Phase 3 of the 'WA Road Map' being implemented as of this Saturday (June 6), there will be some changes to school operations of which you need to know. Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the continued support and understanding that you have shown for the changes we have had to make to our usual operations. Some of these changes will be relaxed as we move to the new normal that will inevitably arise from the Covid-19 restrictions.

As of Monday, June 8th:

- Parents/carers and visitors may come on to the school site to attend pre-arranged meetings and for drop off and pick up purposes. This **should be limited to a maximum of 100 people with physical distancing** of one person per 2 square metres and good hygiene practices applied. **You will still be asked to not enter classrooms.** This means that instead of dropping-off/picking-up your child from the 'school gate' it will now be **from the classroom door**. To help manage the limit of people allowed on-site, please only come to the classrooms if you need to.
 - I should point out that a consistent message that has come to me from teachers over the past six weeks is the growing independence of children in unpacking their bags, getting ready for the day and also getting organised at the end of the day. A number of parents/carers have made similar observations. This is something that I would ask parents/carers to take note of and to continue allowing their child to take on this responsibility.
- After school meetings with your child's teacher may be held in the classroom, however parent/teacher meetings during the day will still be held in the school office area.
- The staggered pick-up (K and P, with siblings at 2:50pm) will continue for a while longer to help manage the limit of 100 people with social distancing.
- Assemblies may re-commence with total not exceeding 100 people for indoor settings. Physical distancing and good hygiene practices should be applied. This will mean that the parents/carers of the children hosting the assembly will be able to attend, but not other parents/carers.
- P&C and School Board meetings can resume during school hours and after hours for up to 100 people when adhering to physical distancing and enhanced cleaning requirements.

Semester One Reporting

Whilst this is not part of Phase 3, you may be aware that the Department of Education has advised schools that the provision of student achievement reports for Semester One will need to be different than the usual timing and structure that parents/carers are familiar with.

Teachers at our school have expressed concern about being able to give parents/carers and students accurate assessment and judgement advice based upon the short time they would have the children this term and the time missed last term. Semester reports would normally come to me at the end of this week for the juniors and the end of next week for the seniors.

What we feel the best thing to do instead of this is to keep teaching and assessing until later in the term and that teachers submit their student reports at the end of the term. This would allow for more accurate information to be provided as well as the usual A - E achievement grades. Whilst

schools were advised that they would not be required to provide these grades, our teachers have decided to provide this information.

The reports would be checked during the term break and then made available to parents/carers on the Wednesday of week 2 term 3 – July 29th. This allows time for adjustments and final checking before being given to parents/carers (electronically or on paper).

Due to the Department's request for parents/carers to keep their child home at the end of term 1, where they could, schools have been advised to not include attendance data in the report. To do so would be to paint an unfair picture of attendance.

I hope that you support what we are doing in terms of providing you with the best report information that we can.

Yours respectfully,

Shane Doherty

Principal

June 5 2020