

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update #6

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's fair to say that our school has felt very different this week.

The final week of a term tends to be far more exciting than this week has been, with students, staff and families alike usually anticipating the upcoming school holidays. This week however has seen all but a few students attend school and staff spending time preparing for schooling under COVID-19 conditions.

Earlier this week, Lisa Rodgers, the Director General of Education, wrote to Principals regarding how Term 2 will look. Mrs Rodgers:

- highlighted that “schools are open for business; but it is not business as usual”.
- echoed State and Federal Government encouragement of parents and carers to keep their children at home, to limit the impact of COVID-19 on our community.
- confirmed that all public schools were to proceed with planning for a delivery model to include a curriculum for:
 - the majority of students remaining at home (**Learning at Home/Distance Learning**); and
 - any **essential service** and **working families** needing their children to attend school.

In reflecting upon Mrs Rodgers directives, we are respectfully asking, in order to protect the health of our staff and the wider community, all parents/carers who have the capacity to keep their child/ren at home and not send them to school should do so. We understand the added workload of having your children at home during this challenging time, however, we are in the midst of a global pandemic, which requires the support and compliance of everyone in adhering to the State Government's precautionary measures. The criteria outlined above regarding schooling for students will form the basis of our planning for Term 2.

What does this mean for the LPS community?

We appreciate that **essential workers** and those **maintaining employment during the school day** may need to send their children to school. These students will complete the same curriculum as those Learning at Home, simply on the school site. Whilst it is understood that it will look somewhat different in the home v's at school, the focus of lessons and work packages will align.

With **Learning at Home** now becoming part of our 'new normal', our staff have spent the past two weeks preparing plans to support the learning of all students, no matter the location of their instruction (home or school). As a Leadership Team, we have spent time with staff to reflect upon our Learning at Home provisions and we are confident that you will find the plans and resources beneficial to your child's learning, as well as detailed enough to assist you in delivering it. Our staff have planned Learning at Home with parents/carers as partners at the forefront of their thinking, being mindful that the home learning environment is different to a classroom and as such, have committed to providing rich support for families engaging Learning at Home.

In the coming days, as you settle in to what will be a different holiday break, keep a look out for further information via the Lockridge PS website, as well as our Facebook page, as to more specific information regarding Learning at Home in Term 2.

Regards,



Mike Mount-Bryson
Principal
8th April 2020