



Gillieston PS Update – Tuesday, 28 April 2020

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school for Term 2. As you would have seen in the media, NSW Government School's will be operating in the same format as they were at the conclusion of Term 1. That means that schools are operational for face to face teaching for students of essential workers and where no other alternatives are available. Where it is possible, the Government encourages families to engage in the remote learning programs that schools are simultaneously delivering with the face-to-face care being provided.

Over these past two days staff have been preparing units of work for delivery to our students whether they are at school or at home. We are aiming to provide the same lessons and content to our students regardless of their setting. Staff have also been looking at how they may incorporate the interactive program ZOOM into their teaching programs.

Work packs are available for collection from the front of the Office for families that choose to keep their children at home. These hard copy packs are based on the same work that students will be completing through online activities. There has been a steady stream of families collecting these packs throughout today.

For families that will be sending their students to school, there are a number of issues that you need to be aware.

- Kiss & Go – we encourage families to utilise the system of kiss & go when dropping students to school in the morning. Adults are asked not to come into the school playground area.
- Collection at the End of the Day – staff will escort students to the grassed area behind Ms Chamberlain's classroom so that students can identify whoever will be collecting them. Student will then proceed to you waiting near your vehicle rather than adults having to wait inside the school grounds. Given the relatively small numbers of students, we do not plan to use various gates or staggered collection times in these first few weeks however this may be a strategy employed as enrolment numbers increase.
- Parents are encouraged to respect social distancing behaviours near the entrances of the school.
- Students **do not need** to wear gloves or face masks.
- Students attending school may not be in their normal classroom or with their usual teacher during this time. Where reasonable, social isolation practices and hygiene practices will be encouraged within our classes; however, please be conscious that keeping students separated in the classroom or playground will be difficult.
- Please be conscious that the school has limited undercover areas if we have inclement weather.
- Students may be required to have their breaks at varying times throughout the day to help manage the number of students in the playground at any time. This again is something that staff will monitor and manage as needed.
- There are no canteen facilities operating at this time.
- Children that present as being ill throughout the day will be sent to the sick bay and their temperature recorded. Parents will be contacted if staff have any concerns. Accordingly, please do not send your child to school if they are feeling unwell.
- Please ensure that all personal property is clearly labelled with your child's name.

The next few weeks are unclear as we do not know whether this virus has been adequately managed or if it could possibly increase in frequency. For that reason, our school is endeavouring to be as flexible as possible to support our



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families whilst looking after the safety and wellbeing of students and staff. As a school, we will endeavour to keep you well informed of what is occurring on a regular basis.

We greatly appreciate your patience and support throughout this period of your child's education. We look forward to when everything can go back to normal and we can celebrate our great little school.

Stay Safe

Mr David Crowe