



BANNISTER CREEK Primary School



Dear parents and carers

This is the **Wednesday 25th March** update on the school actions and procedures regarding COVID 19. **New or adjusted information is highlighted in red.**

Key messages

Water Fountains - From Thursday 26th March students will not be able to use the school water fountains. They are now considered a high risk contamination source and will be turned off. All students attending school need to bring their own water bottle that has been filled up. If students need to refill their bottle during the day taps will be made available.

School Operation Times - The school will from Thursday 26th March only be open from 8am to 3pm. Staff will not be onsite before or after this time. It is now essential that students are collected on time as staff will not be available to supervise if you are late. This does not apply to Camp Australia which is a separate organisation and will continue to operate its normal hours.

Home Schooling - The Education Department is continuing to improve its support of families choosing to self-isolate and home school their children. As well as the resources found on the school CONNECT site the following website provides further materials for families.

<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home>

Bannister Creek Primary is remaining alert, but not alarmed.

Hygiene

The school has increased the measures taken to reinforce good hygiene habits with students including daily instruction to all students on:

- Frequently washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or using an alcohol-based hand gel
- Refraining from touching mouth and nose
- If coughing or sneezing, covering your nose and mouth with a paper tissue or flexed elbow.
- Dispose of the tissue immediately after use.

To support these messages, I have initiated daily inspections of all toilets on the school site, to ensure they are being kept clean with ample supplies of soap and disposable hand towel.

Communication

If you have any questions regarding the school's response to COVID 19 or would like to raise issue with any item in this update, then please feel free to contact me personally.

Phone – 9366 0900

Email – Travis.miller@education.wa.edu.au

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Mass Gatherings and Events

The following school events and activities have been cancelled or suspended:

Event or Activity	Action
Inter School Summer Carnival – Yr 6	Cancelled
Dance Sport Lessons – Yr 3 – 5	Suspended until Term 3
Colour Explosion Fun Run	Suspended until Term 3. A halt has been placed on all online fundraising
ANZAC service	Cancelled
Week 8 and 10 assemblies	Cancelled
Junior and Senior Choir	Cancelled for remainder of term
Year 6 Camp	Suspended until Week 7 Term 3
Incursions and excursions	Cancelled for the remainder of Term 1
Garden Club	Cancelled
School Banking	Suspended until further notice
Aboriginal Family Night	Cancelled
Parent/Teacher meetings	Cancelled
School Board Meeting	Cancelled
School Band	Cancelled for the remainder of Term 1

Home Learning Packages

Bannister Creek primary is very aware that many families are now choosing to self-isolate and some families are also in government required isolation due to recent travel. In order to provide support to families, we have made available home learning packages and resources. These packs are now available on the schools CONNECT page and can be found in the Library section. These packs are easily downloadable and can be printed at home. Hard copies of these packs are also available from the front office. These are not intended to be a replacement of the curriculum provided at school, but advice and ideas on how to support learning at home.

NAPLAN

2020 NAPLAN has been cancelled for all of Australia. Not sure who gave the loudest cheer, the teachers or the students.

School Absences

If your family has made the decision to keep your children home in self-isolation, can you please notify the front office of the reason. We are collecting data on absence reasons to help in school decision making.





School Recess and Lunch

Students have been separated into three different play areas, for recess and lunch breaks, to prevent overcrowding of equipment. All students from K – 6 will also eat their lunch inside, sitting in a chair at a desk. This will allow teachers to monitor acceptable hygiene practices, prevent the sharing of food and allow acceptable space.

School Visitors

We have asked that all non-essential school visitors cease visiting the school for the remainder of the term. This includes school volunteers and library helpers, but does not include visiting teachers, therapists and SIM teachers. We have also requested that parents avoid unnecessary visits into the classrooms and this includes pick up and drop off times. We fully understand that this may cause concern for some families and the school will help support you with this. If you have concerns with how your child will react to this decision, then please contact me at the office.

International Travel

In regards to international travel, if any student or staff member travels from or transits through the countries listed below, students and staff must self-isolate for 14 days. This does not apply to family members living in the house with people self-isolating without a positive test.

Higher Risk	Moderate Risk
<p><i>Must isolate for 14 days prior to attending</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All countries Any interstate travel 	<p><i>Can attend school, but self-monitor</i></p>

Information

Further information on the virus and its symptoms is available at www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus or the health direct helpline on **1800 020 080**.

I will continue to provide the school community with information as it becomes available.

Regards

Travis Miller
Principal

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