

Dear parents/carers

Due to the COVID-19 upheaval to our lifestyle and economy I am returning from Long Service Leave, delaying retirement transition plans. I am looking forward to supporting our students, staff and families through the challenges ahead. I know that the strong leadership and staff team culture at BCPS will ensure we will do our best to provide a safe and effective learning and teaching environment for our students and staff.

With Term 2 commencing next Wednesday 29th April, I am updating you on the School's operational model for the start of term. **New or adjusted information is highlighted in red.**

Please find attached a letter from the WA Chief Health Officer, Dr Andy Robertson.

Teaching and Learning

- Monday 27 April is a public holiday;
- Tuesday 28 April will be a pupil free day. There will be no students at school as staff will be using this day for preparation;
- From Wednesday 29 April, school is open for all students whose parents/carers choose to send them. **We anticipate that between 50-60% of students at Bannister Creek Primary will return to school;**
- **Students who attend school will be taught in their own classroom by their class teacher, following the normal class timetable. School hours will be as normal- 8:40am to 2:45pm;**
- **For those children learning from home, this will be through online or hard copy packages, both modes managed by the School Administration Team;**
- **Online packages will be uploaded via Seesaw by 12pm Tuesday, 28th April;**
- **Hard copy packages will be collated and put in envelopes labelled with family names. These can be collected from a table outside the school front office from 12pm Tuesday 28th April. Details of how to undertake and return the work will accompany the packages;**
- For those students who are learning from home, contact by school will be made each week by phone and/or online.

Health and Hygiene

The School will closely follow all health, safety advice and guidelines from the WA Chief Medical Officer and the Education Department.

Arrangements will be in place for Term 2 with regard to safety, to reduce direct contact, enhance personal hygiene practices, and strengthen cleaning regimes in schools.

Cleaning:

- Cleaning guidelines are based on, and continuously reviewed in line with, advice from the Department of Health.
- **Cleaning will increase in Term 2, with cleaning staff on site throughout the school day to regularly clean and disinfect high-contact surfaces that are frequently used by students and/or staff.**
- **Playgrounds will be open and play equipment will be cleaned before school and after each break.**

Personal hygiene:

The School will reinforce good hygiene habits with students including daily instruction on:

- Frequently washing your hands for at least 20seconds with soap or water, or using an alcohol based hand gel;
- Refraining from touching face;

- If coughing or sneezing, covering your nose and mouth with a paper tissue or flexed elbow. Dispose of tissue immediately after use;
- There will be regular inspections of all toilets on site, to ensure that they are being cleaned with ample supplies of soap and disposable towel;
- Water Fountains are turned off as they are considered a high risk contamination source.
All students attending 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.

The School will implement the following:

Social distancing measures outlined by the Chief Medical Officer and the Education Department will be followed.

- Excursions, assemblies, camps, before and after school choir practice and interschool activities will not be conducted;
- **Parents and visitors will drop students at specified gates and not enter the school grounds. Limited (3) school gates will be open from 8:30am. Children will be met at the gate by school staff and guided to classrooms where class teachers will be waiting to greet students.**

****Kindergarten and Pre-Primary Children – Parents are to deliver and collect children to and from Purley Park at the back entrance to the ECE grounds.**

All other Years can:

Enter and exit through the back gate near T4

Use the Kiss and Drop zone near the back school entrance

Enter and Exit via the gate near the Chinese room on the school oval.

Camp Australia- Term 2 Services Message

Camp Australia can confirm that we will be operating Holiday Club on Tuesday 28th April, and our regular OSHC service will resume from Wednesday 29th April at Bannister Creek Primary School.

As per the recent State Government advice, from Wednesday 29th April, public schools are open for all students whose parents or carers choose to send them to school. Parents can choose whether their children return to school for face-to-face teaching or learn from home.

Our services remain open to all families. However, should our services start to reach capacity, as per the latest Federal Government advice, we will need to give priority of access to “children of working parents, vulnerable and disadvantaged children that need early education more than ever and parents with pre-existing enrolments.” Should parents choose to send their children to school and require Outside School Hours Care, they must visit the Parent Portal to register their current status.

As our booking levels for next week do not accurately represent the need for care, we have made the decision to cancel all previously made bookings for OSHC for Term 2, except for bookings made within the last 7 days. We have directed families that should they meet the above criteria, they must rebook their care as needed. For all families that attend, childcare will be provided free of charge until 30th June as per the Federal Government's announcement on the 2nd April. This will ensure that we have capacity for all those who need us.

Communication

If you have any questions regarding the Schools response to COVID 19 or would like to raise any issues with any item in this update, please contact me personally.

Phone: 93660900

Email: Lynnette.Macauley@education.wa.edu.au

Thank you to the many families who have emailed the school at bannistercreek.ps@education.wa.edu.au to request hard copy or online home learning packages, or to inform us that your child/children will be returning to school. Your notification is much appreciated and assists with planning. Please continue to contact us with your learning options.

I thank you for your support as we work together to best support our children.

Kind regards

Lyn Macauley