



**BANNISTER CREEK**  
Primary School



Dear parents and carers

This is the Friday 3rd April update on the school actions and procedures regarding COVID 19. New or adjusted information is highlighted in red.

**Bannister Creek Primary is remaining alert, but not alarmed.**

## Key messages

### Education Delivery in Term 2

At this point the state government has requested parents keep their children home from school for the beginning of Term 2. The school will remain open and supervision provided for students whose family need to send them to school. These may include:

- Children of parents and carers who need their children to attend school to maintain employment.
- Children who live in families with aged relatives.
- Children where it is safer for them to be at school.

All schools in Western Australia are required to provide a distance education teaching model for Term 2. All families are currently asked to keep their children home from school. To support families in Term 2, Bannister Creek will be providing access to online lessons in English, Mathematics and Cross Curricular activities. These lessons will be designed to cater for the individual needs of students and be posted each week using the See Saw online platform. The new system will be trialled early next week, to ensure that families have access to the online content. Families experiencing difficulties accessing the online platform will be able to collect hard copy packs of work.

### Cleaning

We have closed half of the school toilets and several learning spaces in the school. This will allow our cleaners more time to thoroughly clean and disinfect the toilets and learning spaces that are being used. Learning spaces and toilets will be reopened as required.

### School playgrounds and play equipment

The WA Government announced that as of 11:59pm on Tuesday 31 March, all playgrounds in public places will be closed.

It has been recommended that all schools with playgrounds and/or playground type equipment close them down until further notice. All playground equipment at BCPS will closed down and students will not have access to it at break times.



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The Premier announced whilst all public schools will remain open until the end of term, families are strongly encouraged to keep their children at home if they have the capacity to do so.

I would like to share with you what this will mean for our school community:

**Monday 30 March to Friday 3 April**

- All children who are unable to be supervised at home, attend school will be taught as normal.

**Final week of Term – Monday 6 April to Thursday 9 April**

- Students who attend will be supervised, but not taught normal lessons.
- Teachers and education assistants will prepare teaching programs for Term 2.

**Term 2 – commencing Tuesday 28 April**

- At this stage, arrangements for Term 2 have not been finalised. The State Government is working on developing a longer term education model for Term 2 and beyond, in response to COVID-19.

**Supervision Week 10**

If you are unable to keep your children at home in Week 10, can you please inform the school office by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

**Camp Australia**

Camp Australia will still be operating before and after school, as well as during the school holidays. They will be running a holiday program for students who have booked in, however there will not be any excursions. Please visit their website, [www.camaustralia.com.au/holidaysclubs](http://www.camaustralia.com.au/holidaysclubs) to book in or call 1300 105 343 if you have any queries.

**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](mailto:Travis.miller@education.wa.edu.au)

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## 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.

**Water Fountains** - From Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Mass Gatherings and Events

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

Event or Activity	Action
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
Week 10 Teaching program	Cancelled





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## 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.

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>

## School Operation Times

The school will from Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

## NAPLAN

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

## 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.



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## 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.

## International and Interstate Travel

In regards to international and interstate 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. Travellers are now isolated away from family members

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

## Information

Further information on the virus and its symptoms is available at [www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus](http://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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