



Students to return to school

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have been officially notified that as of Monday, 18 May 2020 all students are required to attend school, except for those students medically referred to learn from home.

This means students are either:

- **at school;**
- **have a medical referral to learn from home (processes apply, please see below);**
- **or recorded as absent if they do not attend.**

I want to thank you all for your support in what was one of the most unusual starts to a school term we have ever seen. Together, we have been able to make the best of this situation and ensure your child's safety and continuity of learning.

Today, the State Government announced changes to education based on a review of current arrangements and updated health advice. Over the last three weeks we have seen 84% of our students return to school, which has been fantastic.

Current health advice states that schools remain safe for staff and students and should remain open. We want to make sure all children get the best education possible, which is why attending school is so important. We are here to make sure all children are learning and there's no doubt, schools are the best place for them to learn. It is important for students to remain connected with their school, including staff and classmates.

For parents with medical advice that their child should not attend school, we will work with you in partnership with the School of Special Educational Needs: Medical and Mental Health to support your child's learning from home.

If you feel your child is in this category, and is at risk **please notify the school and provide medical evidence** such as a medical certificate. On receipt of the medical certificate, the school will complete a referral form and send to SSEN Medical and Mental Health branch, who will then determine the best way to support your child's learning from home. School of Special Educational Needs: Medical and Mental Health provides educational support for students whose medical or mental health prevents them from successfully participating in their enrolled school programs.

Any student without a medical certificate who does not return to school will no longer be provided with learning support and will be marked in attendance as an unauthorized absence.

To ensure social distancing between adults is in place at schools, parents are requested to continue to drop off and pick up their children at the school gates. Parents can only enter the school grounds for pre-arranged parent/carer meetings with staff for the purposes of enrolment, case conference, student behaviour and engagement, medical reasons or other emergencies. This is based on advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee.

The State Government will continue to make decisions based on the best health advice. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward.

If you have any questions, please to contact the office on 9458-5542.

Kind regards,

Hans Geers, Principal
14th May 2020