

What does school is open on Wednesday 15th April mean?

The school will only have the minimum staff in attendance. That is; only Chellee Plumb, our AP or myself and the one or 2 staff members needed to supervise those few children who need care. Staff cannot come in if they have a cold or any illness. They cannot come in if they have an underlying health issue. They cannot come in if they live with someone who has an underlying health issue.

Only volunteers or casual relief teachers (CRT's) who agree to work may supervise students at school.

If you do not need to come to school please do not come.

Anyone coming in will need to make an appointment.

Those who are dropping off children will be asked to follow physical social distancing rules and will need to drop children off at the front door. Signs and a door bell will be installed.

Who can come to school?

From the start of Term 2 all students who can learn from home must learn at home.

The following operating model will apply:

All students will be learning from home, except for the students in the following categories:

a. Children on days when they are not able to be supervised at home **and no other arrangements can be made**. This will be available for children of parents who cannot work from home, and vulnerable children, including:

- children in out-of-home care
- children deemed by Child Protection and/or Family Services to be at risk of harm
- children identified by the school as vulnerable (including via referral from a family violence agency, homelessness or youth justice service or mental health or other health service and children with a disability).

Unfortunately we have had a number of requests from families when a parent is working from home. We know looking after children and working from home is going to have its challenges, but the message from the DET is clear if a parent or carer is at home then the child or children stays at home with them.

This now means we will need a letter from an employer or details of where both parents are working, with days and dates to ensure those who need this help have priority (this will follow on another post, and thanks to those parents who have already done that)

After school care arrangements

Those who need care should include that in their application, however the child or children already need to be registered with our service.

If you have queries around whether your child can attend, please now email the school, not your child's teacher.

What you need to know about flexible and remote learning

Term 2 will officially start remotely on Wednesday 15th April. Each week, parents will be posted via compass a home learning schedule, (similar to the ones given out last term). These will also be posted on our website so children can access them as independently as possible.

Teachers will send out the week's program (weekly schedule) at the beginning of the week. We understand each family has its own circumstances and is encouraged to work through the tasks in a manner that suits their situation, ie, catch up on weekend when parents not working.

What will happen in week 1 (April 15-17)

Teachers will assign tasks that may be online with students working on essential assessment or study ladder. Years 5 and 6 might have tasks assigned on google documents.

However time will also be allocated to tasks that students do not require a device.

Not every child in your family will need a device at all times.

Staff are still working on setting up for Seesaw and Webex. **Please be Patient.** We have had a number of challenges in these spaces and staff are still training and installing programs on their devices.

We aim to trial these platforms with some students in week one before we allocate times that groups will log on with their teacher in the following week/weeks.

Department Guidelines

Some clear instruction about how much work your child will do. This will **not** look like a regular school day.

Prep to Grade 2:

- Literacy activities that take a total of about 45-60 minutes
- Numeracy activities of about 30-45 minutes
- Additional learning areas, play-based learning and physical activity of about 30-45 minutes.

Grades 3 to 6:

- Literacy: 45-60 minutes
- Numeracy: 30-45 minutes
- Physical activities: 30 minutes
- Additional curriculum areas: 90 minutes.

Students coming to school

At this stage they will be supervised by some specialist staff and some casual relief teachers. It will not be the same staff member each day.

They will be following the same work that will be posted online as students who are at home will have.

Those students who absolutely have to come to school will still have to follow social distancing. They will need to have with them their book or diary with their passwords to essential assessment and study ladder.

We will have separate tubs for them to use with their own supplies, they will not be permitted to share pencils etc.

They will have access to individual sport equipment for breaks eg a skipping rope, however they will not be permitted to use the play equipment.

They will need to bring their own snacks and lunch and will have to remain 1.5m away from each other.

Devices

There has been a great deal in the press about schools giving students devices and internet if needed.

The DET is sending out 6000 devices to schools. **However** these are first going to areas affected by bushfire, areas of disadvantage and with a priority for secondary students.

With this in mind I **do not** expect any devices to come to Murrumbreena.

As I have said before we do not have enough devices to give one to every student.

Again our priorities are first families with no other device but their phone. We would then appreciate it if you can manage with what you have to do so.

If you do need a school device please email your child's teacher and we will try to set up a time to collect one and sign agreements on their use with an appointed time. This will not be on Tuesday 14th as we will working with staff on our new platforms.

Communication/Feedback

Please contact your child's teacher via email should you be experiencing any difficulties / if you have any queries. They will then email the administration staff or our school leadership group once a day with a summary of questions and problems.

At the end of week 2 we will try to have a survey out so we can ascertain how things are going.

Remember, we are all in this together, stay safe and best of luck.