



**LEURA PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
Cnr Mount Hay Rd and Willow Park Ave  
Leura, 2780  
ph : 4784 1251 fax : 4784 3156  
email : [leura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:leura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

*respect*

*responsibility*

*resilience*

## COVID-19 Department of Education Guidelines Week 5, Term 3

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> August, the Department of Education updated its guidelines for schools in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. As you are aware, 2020 has presented us with many challenges and the advice is constantly changing and evolving. We will continue to keep you updated to ensure that our students, staff and community are safe.

**A separate note will go home in the next couple of days to all students who participate in our music/ tuition programs. This week we will continue with our current arrangements with new practices meeting the new guidelines from next Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August.** If you have any questions or inquiries please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### [Entering the School Office – Tightening of Our School Procedures](#)

All parents, caregivers and non-essential visitors must remain off site. We ask that you ring the school prior to entering the school grounds. The gates will be locked from 9:15am and access to the school will be restricted to the main gate only. We need to ensure that we do not have people entering the school grounds without approval. We know that at times this can be very inconvenient, however, we are accountable for maintaining accurate records of people on site for both the Department of Health and Department of Education. We need to ensure that only approved visitors are in our office for essential activities (including when children arrive late or need to leave early). We do not make this decision lightly and we look forward to being able to engage with our community once this pandemic is over. We have an excellent administration team who work above and beyond their call of duty. Please be mindful that these processes are not decided by them and that they are following guidelines.

Access to the uniform shop will be via online or telephone orders only. Please contact the uniform shop via this email address to organise orders or inquiries - [lps.uniformshop@gmail.com](mailto:lps.uniformshop@gmail.com)

### [Key Messages from the Department of Education](#)

**Schools continue to be safe, and operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health advice. All students should be learning at school unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.**

#### **School attendance**

Students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.



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In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home. *Please ensure that your family contact details and emergency contacts are up to date by completing the attached form and return it to the school office by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August.* NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

Students and staff with flu like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school. Schools are not required to conduct widespread temperature screening or mandate the wearing of a mask.

Leura Public School will be vigilant when implementing infection control, physical distancing and personal hygiene protocols to protect the health and safety of students and staff. Our school will promote good hygiene practices such as:

- **regularly washing hands**
- **avoiding sharing drinks or food**
- **coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately**
- **filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.**

All students and staff who reside in or have visited Victoria must have a permit to enter NSW and are required to comply with health restrictions relevant to their permit which may include the need to complete the 14 day self-isolation period commencing the last day they were in Victoria.

#### **School activities/school site usage**

- **All group singing - including and/or other chanting activities, as well as the use of wind instruments in group settings, are not permitted.** Leura Public School will provide families with further advice this week to explain how we will comply with these new guidelines.
- All P and C Meetings will be online.

#### **Activities on hold for Term 3**

The following events will be reconsidered in Term 3. For now, these events must remain on hold.

- Kindergarten orientation and transition activities
- Year 7 orientation has been delayed until Term 4
- Excursions
- School or community run playgroups
- Face to face professional learning for staff
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events
- Parent and carer volunteers – e.g. parent reading helpers (note: canteen and uniform shop volunteers are permitted)



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- School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school BBQs, large parent information evenings, and large on-site cultural events.
- Interschool sport, drama, debating and other events that are not within the local community or zone including gala days and regional sporting carnivals
- Certain large arts and sports events are cancelled or delayed. Many large-scale arts events and sports tournaments rely upon feeder activities and have long-lead time organisational arrangements. As a consequence, a number of annual activities planned will be delayed or cancelled

#### **Transport**

Bus services to and from schools are scheduled to run as normal. For travel advice to and from school refer to the NSW [public transport service](#).

Yours sincerely,

Mrs May Ptolemy  
Principal  
18/08/20