



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

respect

responsibility

resilience

28 April 2020

TERM 2 SCHOOL MANAGEMENT (COVID-19 UPDATE)

Dear Leura Public School Parents and Caregivers,

I hope this message finds you and your family well. I anticipate that you have experienced a considerable amount of family time during this holiday period.

I have no doubt you are aware of the Premier and Education Minister's media briefing last week regarding learning in NSW Public Schools in Term 2. Information was sent to you through Skoolbag last week.

Phase 0 – Wednesday 29 April – Friday 8 May (Weeks 1-2) In weeks 1 and 2 of this term, students will continue to 'learn from home' as they did at the end of Term 1. Students will return or start online learning via Google Classroom (K-6). Students who are experiencing challenges accessing online materials can arrange to pick up a home learning pack from the school office. Please contact the office if you would prefer this mailed.

The school will remain open for students who need to attend. Supervision will be available for these students, and they will engage in the same learning as the students 'learning at home'. As also announced by the NSW Premier, parents are encouraged 'to keep their children at home'.

Drop Off and Pick Up Until further notice, we are advised to ask parents to remain off school grounds where possible. When dropping off and collecting children, please do not enter the school. This is going to be challenging for all of us, and new routines will need to be put into place. Students and staff are the only people to enter the gates. Please discuss with your child which of 2 gates they will be entering and exiting the school – either the kiss and drop bay gate or the main gate (the bridge gate will be closed). I will be out and about before and after school, greeting any children as they arrive and supervising as they exit. Although we can't meet with you face-to-face, it will be great to see you – even if through the car window! When you are picking up paper based resources to support home learning, please enter through the main gate and head to the school office only.

Phase 1 – From Monday 11 May (Week 3 onwards) We will enter Phase 1 of a *Managed Return to School* from week 3, where students have been allocated one day to attend school. Our teachers have considered a range of options for scheduling this one day. We have decided to organise students across the school in family groupings. Students will be learning from the home learning plan whether they attend on their scheduled one day or are working from home. Class teachers will be communicating with you from tomorrow to let you know which day your child has been scheduled. Please contact the school if you have not heard from your child's teacher by Friday. Staff will be utilising Fridays for the preparation of online and offline learning materials, accessing the Google Classroom and updating assessments and feedback.



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The Premier has stated **that in Phase 1 children should be kept at home except for their 'rostered day'** and has asked parents to 'respect the guidelines' that will be established by the school. The scheduled day for your child is not a negotiable day as every one of our students has been considered across the week to maintain limited numbers and family groupings. The one day scheduled for your child enables students to be with a class teacher in small groups of no more than 10 in a room and with no more than 25% of our school on site at any one time. Students attending on a non-scheduled day are supervised by a teacher to complete the home learning plan and will not be with their class teacher on that day. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any concerns about the scheduled attendance in Phase 1.

Health and Hygiene From now we are asking all students to bring a water bottle to school. We have been advised that no student is to drink from water bubblers. Students will be asked to refill bottles from a tap to assist stop the spread of infection and reduce cross infection. We will remind students to wash hands regularly and we have received additional supplies of hand sanitiser today. Additional signs will be posted around the school to support every student to maintain hygiene and social distancing measures.

Google Classroom K-6 Please note that from Wednesday 29 April K-2 will also be learning in their Google Classroom, similar to years 3-6. Class Dojo continues to be a place for parent-teacher communication, however learning instructions will be in the Google Classroom. Contact your child's teacher if your child is yet to join the classroom, and they will provide support as required.

Microsoft Office for Students – No Cost All students enrolled in NSW public schools are eligible to download Microsoft Office Professional Plus (including Word, PowerPoint, Excel). Go to <https://www.microsoft.com/en-au/education/products/office> Students will need their student email address (firstname.lastname@education.nsw.gov.au) [some students have number after their last name] to download and install the software. Each individual student in the family can download the program for their individual devices. When in Google Classroom, everything a student needs to complete their school work is there – Docs (like Word) Slides (like PowerPoint), and Sheets (like Excel). Downloading additional software is not compulsory, just an option.

Mental Health Your child's mental health is the most important thing and their wellbeing underpins all their learning. What your child needs now, more than anything related to academics, is to feel comforted, loved and to feel like "it's all going to be okay". And that might mean that you tear up your home learning plan for the day and just have some quality family time instead. We again reinforce the message that we understand these are challenging times and only ask that families do their best. The health and wellbeing of all families is our key priority and encourage you to aim for a balanced approach to learning at home. Keep us posted on your child's wellbeing if you feel that this is an ongoing issue and we can help you in any way we can. Please reach out to us if you require any help. We are more than happy to support whenever and wherever we can.

There is no doubt this term will again be one where we will have to face the unexpected in regards to what is an ongoing, ever-changing teaching and learning environment. The staff



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want to thank everyone in our community for your support and your extraordinary effort to engage your child in learning at home. You have been amazing!

I would also like to thank the extraordinary staff at Leura PS for going above and beyond to learn new modes of lesson delivery and technology platforms when designing and creating new content in a short period of time to ensure students' learning and growth continues. We have received many messages of thanks from our community and appreciate your kind words – thank you so very much. Knowing that we are working together as a learning community helps us all to make it through another day.

“When you can't control what's happening, challenge yourself to control the way you respond to what's happening. That's where your power is”.

With kind regards

Jodie Field

Relieving Principal