

COVID- 19 UPDATE 6th April 2020

Dear All

Repeated Messaging

The following information has been compiled from a number of sources and is the most current information we have at this time.

Our focus remains on providing our education service in a safe environment whilst caring for the safety and wellbeing of all.

The key issues that most people are querying are:

- Self-Isolation
- Travel Advice
- Recording Student and Staff Absences
- Visitors to schools
- Supply Issues

The Australian Government has released a WhatsApp group as well as a new App that provide the most current health and safety advice, information about welfare support and the latest Australian statistics on the virus spread. These can be accessed by visiting www.aus.gov.au/Whatsapp and the Apple Appstore or Google Play.

The latest health advice is available on the Australian Government Department of Health website: health.gov.au

Pandemic Plans

Just a reminder to keep your school's pandemic plan up dated to reflect the current advice as it becomes available.

Keeping pandemic plans updated

Schools should be regularly reviewing pandemic plans to ensure they are in line with current advice from the Australian and Northern Territory Governments.

Term 2 - 2020

Whilst we are still unsure of how schooling will operate during term 2, it should be noted that student learning will continue.

As education providers you should continue to act on the advice from Australian and Northern Territory Government.

Learning delivery in Term 2 - 2020 may differ between schools.

Back to School Payment Scheme

The Department of Education has extended the date the payment is to be used by to 26 June 2020 so that parents can continue to access their entitlement and the new due date for schools to submit Back to School payment acquittals is 24 July 2020.

Please advise parents and students they may continue to access the full choice of goods and services under the scheme in Term 2, if they haven't already expended their full entitlement.

Recording student attendance on professional learning days

Please use the 'B' code to record student attendance on four professional learning days in Week 11.

Northern Territory Learning Commitment

The Department of Education is committed to ongoing learning in Term 2 2020 and is preparing to deliver education in a range of modes.

Each school will continue to be responsible for the development and delivery of teaching and learning programs to their students.

The Department has developed a suite of resources to assist principals in leading this work.

Learning Together Website

The website provides resources and advice for parents, carers and families when supporting their child's learning in the event of school closure.

It includes learning materials for a 10-week program for students from Preschool to Year 9 and supports families to establish a functioning learning environment by providing routine and wellbeing practices.

By the start of Term 2, schools who indicated will also receive printed learning materials, textbooks and pencils to provide to students and families, with remote schools prioritised.

Supporting preschool and childcare

The Australian Government has released the Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package.

From Monday 6 April 2020 weekly payments will be made directly to early childhood education and care services in lieu of the Child Care Subsidy and the Additional Child Care Subsidy, to help them keep their doors open and employees in their jobs.

Payments will be made until the end of the 2019-20 financial year and families will not be charged fees during this time.

eSafety resources to support online learning

The eSafety Commissioner has released resources to support schools and families to discuss eSafety with students and young children - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

As we move to increased online learning, schools are encouraged to share these resources with families to support their child's learning from home.

Travel/Border Controls

It should be noted that strict border controls remain in place. (For the Latest information from Secure NT: <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/>)

Remote community travel

Remote communities in the NT are closed to all non-essential travel. Only essential workers can now visit remote communities.

Please stay safe and contact Gail for on email gail.barker@aisnt.asn.au or phone 0429793199 at any time with your queries.