



WEST LEEDERVILLE
PRIMARY

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday, the State Government announced changes to education based on a review of current arrangements and updated health advice.

As of Monday 18 May 2020, all students are expected 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; or
- recorded as absent if they do not attend.

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, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will work together on next steps.

As of Monday 18 May, if your child does not attend school without a medical reason, they will be marked as absent and will not be provided a learning program. We want to make sure all children get the best education possible, which is why attending school is so important.

The extra cleaning and hygiene practices implemented at the start of Term 2 will continue. In addition, based on advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, all schools will continue to ask parents/carers to drop children at the school gate, or nearby and not enter the school grounds. To support our successful implementation of this strategy we will continue with staggered drop-off and pick-ups. Thank you for your continuing support of this social distancing initiative.

Also confirmed yesterday were the following Department of Education guidelines regarding Semester 1 reports:

- School systems/sectors across the country have been offered flexibilities in relation to reporting requirements for Semester 1, 2020.
- There is no requirement to report an A – E grade or equivalent 5-point scale.
- Teachers will make judgements for students aligned to the Attitude, Behaviour, Effort descriptors.
- school principals are to work with their staff to determine:
 - the extent to which comments are provided to describe the progress of students; and
 - if a general comment will be provided that addresses a student's overall progress.
- Reporting to parent meetings should not be conducted face to face.

After taking into consideration:

- the guidelines provided above;
- the principles of assessment (fair, explicit, valid, educative, comprehensive);
- student attendance variables;
- differences in engagement in on-line learning and work submission;
- teacher absences in some classes and learning areas; and

- staff workload and well-being;

at West Leederville Primary School we will:

- provide progress comments in mathematics and English;
- provide a general comment incorporating feedback from other learning areas where appropriate;
- make judgements for students aligned to the Attitude, Behaviour and Effort descriptors; and
- make judgements for students aligned to the Personal and Social Learning descriptors.

I have been asked to share with our community two further pieces of information. Firstly, a letter from the Western Australian Government Chief Health Officer. This letter is on our website and can be accessed via the following link: [Updated advice from the Chief Health Officer](#). Secondly, a video titled [Building On Strength in Uncertain Times: In This Together](#).

This video provides relatable and culturally responsive information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, parents and community members about these challenging times from both a system-level and Aboriginal perspective. These messages are relevant to all school communities and highlight the 2020 National Reconciliation Week theme *In This Together* which resonates at this time, as it reminds us whether in a crisis or in reconciliation, we are all “in this together”.

I would also like to share with you a letter written to all WLPS staff by the parent and community members of the School Board. This letter, thanking the staff for their extraordinary efforts during these unusual times, was well received. The letter is attached for your viewing.

Kind regards,

Fiona Kelly
Principal