

April 2 2020

Dear Parents,

How are you and your family this week?

A quick update on Covid 19 and KICE.

Today will be the last day of face to face lessons for students. All Stage 2 (SACE) students will continue online lessons. Next week the teachers will be undertaking planning and preparation in readiness for the likelihood that online/at home learning will continue in term two.

If the state-wide Covid 19 situation remains similar to the current status then we will be open for term 2 for the children of parents who are providing essential services and for children whose access to school is necessary to support their wellbeing. I will send you a survey via email next week to try and gauge an understanding of how many children will be attending school next term. I understand that you may not be able to make an informed decision at this stage, I will be asking for an indication only to help our forward planning.

This week and next we are trialling on line learning and have also been sending home packs of work for children to complete. Thank you to the parents who are providing feedback on how this is working in the initial stage for their child, it's helping to refine our practice.

At the beginning of this year we were not preparing and designing for KICE learning to be online/at home so what we are providing is an emergency response to the crisis. It is developing and evolving each week and we understand that we will not have it perfect for every family or every child however our goal is to ensure that all children have continuity in their learning at an age appropriate level. This crisis has required creative problem solving and much upskilling for staff and students. Having a multi campus school has added additional complexities and we are trying hard to ensure consistency across the three campuses however there are unique situations relevant to each campus that may impact on some adjustments that need to be made.

We are watching and learning from the experience of countries that are 2 months ahead of Australia in this crisis and it is clear that the wellbeing of the child and family is the main priority. Teaching and learning is important but it comes second to safety and wellness. Many teachers (as with many families) did not have a break over Christmas due to the fires so I am encouraging all teachers to ensure they have a break these holidays. We will be available next week and after the holidays to support you. Please keep in touch and don't hesitate to make contact if we can support your child further.

Stay well.

Kind Regards, Maxine McSherry

KICE VISION: developing and sustaining a COMMUNITY where everyone learns and grows.



Some Frequently Asked Questions From KICE Parents

Can my child attend school after the holidays?

We will monitor the Government and Health Department advice, at the moment that advice is to keep children at home if you are in a position to stay at home. If you are not in a position to stay at home e.g. essential services workers, I am expecting the school will be open to support you and your child/ren.

What will at home learning look like for my child?

At home learning will be very dependent on the age of your child. The amount of online learning generally increases with the age of the child. The guide below is a minimum requirement.

Early Years (Pre-school to Year 5) Children will have printed learning packs to work through blended with weekly contact from the teacher.

Middle Years (Years 6-9) Students will have a blend of learning packs and some online learning classes.

Senior Years (Years 10-12) Students will be engaging in full days of online learning with their individual subject teachers.

Your child's class or subject teacher will provide you with more individual information.

We don't have internet access, how will my child access the learning?

Firstly please ensure your child's subject/class teacher is aware that you do not have internet access. Please connect with your child's teacher and we will develop a response appropriate to your child's needs. The ABC is launching teacher run mini lessons, starting on April 14th, these are based on the Australian Curriculum and are aimed at providing age appropriate support for your child.

Will teachers keep in contact with my child while they are learning at home?

Yes, how they do this will vary on the age of the child.

As a parent am I expected to help my child and assess their learning?

We are creating learning resources and online programs that most students can self-manage. We are trying to maintain your child's learning but in a different context. If you are able; to sit with your child and help their learning that is a bonus, if that is not possible please do not feel guilty. It will be different in every home depending on your circumstances. Teachers will be contactable during school hours via phone, see saw app or other programs, please reach out for help and support. Teachers will assess the learning.

Will bus runs be operating term two?

The decision regarding the intercampus bus run for Senior Students will be determined in consultation with the department. All the morning and bus runs will be dependent on the availability of drivers, we currently have one run not operating. I will keep you updated of any changes to bus runs as information comes to hand. It is certainly our aim to keep them running where possible.