

Hurstville Public School

Learning from Home Information - Term 3 Week 1 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As you are aware from media reports over the past week, schools located in the Greater Sydney area will be returning to '*Learning from Home*' for the first week of Term 3. All families are encouraged to monitor the NSW Government's latest COVID-19 news and updates for locations where there may have been exposure to COVID-19 and adhere to the advice as appropriate. The latest information from the NSW Department of Education regarding the operations of NSW Public Schools can be found at: <https://www.education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

For schools inside areas impacted by the NSW Health stay-at-home orders (Greater Sydney, the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour):

- For the first four days of Term 3, students will be learning from home.
- This will stay in place until Friday 16 July, at this point in time.
- Schools will remain open for students and families who need it.
- Masks will be required for all staff in all school settings, and students from Year 7 upwards.

What this means in terms of Hurstville Public School operations for Week 1:

- Non-essential visitors are not permitted on school sites in these areas.
- Parents should remain outside of school grounds and follow the physical distancing advice for the local area and avoid gathering outside of school gates.
- Updated student drop off and pick up arrangements beginning **from Tuesday 13 July** is attached to this email. Please refer to the **specific dismissal time and exit gate for afternoon pick up of students**. Please complete and return the request slip for any special dismissal arrangements involving your child.
- Outside of school hours care (OOSHC) can continue to operate for those who need it.
- Families to be encouraged to keep their children at home wherever possible but no child will be turned away from school.
- Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms should be sent home and should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free.
- Minimum school staff will on-site to oversee one unit of learning for students attending school site, noting that flexible syllabus requirements are in place.
- All staff and any visitors permitted on school sites will be required to check in and check out using the QR codes.
- Canteens and uniform stores are not to operate.
- Further advice will be provided about opportunity class exams in the coming days
- Open, well-ventilated spaces and outdoor settings to be used where practicable.
- External groups and providers will not operate during this time on the school site - This includes Jump St Dance, Shine Art, Coding Club, Science Club, Chess, SRE/SEE (Scripture & Ethics) groups, KRS Dance Classes, Engadine Music Band lessons, Weekend Community Language schools.

Units of Learning and Communication during *Learning from Home*

Teachers will post messages each morning about learning tasks from the units of learning on **Seesaw (K-4 students & students from Support Unit) / Microsoft Teams (5-6 Students)**. These online platforms will be used to further support communication between Hurstville PS teachers and students when learning from home:

- Please refer to the '**Parent Guide to Learning from Home**' attached to this email.
- Years K-4 & students from Support Unit: **Seesaw** <https://web.seesaw.me/>
- Years 5 & 6: Microsoft Teams (Accessed via each student's *Department of Education Student Portal*)
- In order to further support your child's learning from home, we have also updated the '**Learning from Home**' link on our school website: <https://hurstville-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>
- Students in K-4 and Support Unit should be connected to Seesaw via their class group. If your child is unable to access Seesaw from home, please email the school (hurstville-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) and include in the subject line - **Seesaw Code + Your child's name + Your child's class**. This will ensure your request is actioned swiftly. If you need to contact your child's teacher, please call the school office on 9587 3963.
- K-2 students will require some parental support with using Seesaw.
- **Seesaw Introduction for Families:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzlrtDR84KY>
- If you are unable to access these learning resources digitally, a hard copy of these materials can be collected from the tables that will be set up just inside the Forest Road pedestrian gate. These materials will be available for collection from **Tuesday morning 13 July at 10:00am. Please ensure you use the QR code to enter the school site and collect these materials from the tables.**

Wellbeing of Students

Being confined to home for an extended period of time can sometimes cause stress and conflict for young people. Tips for looking after your children during stay at home periods include:

- Talking to your whole family about what is happening. Understanding the situation will reduce their anxiety.
- Help your child to think about how they have coped with difficult situations in the past and reassure them that they will cope with this situation too. Remind them that the Stay at Home orders won't last for long.
- Encourage your child to exercise regularly. Options could include exercise DVDs, dancing, floor exercises, yoga, walking around the backyard or using home exercise equipment, such as a stationary bicycle, if you have it.
- Encourage your child to keep in touch and connected with family members and friends via telephone, email or social media (where appropriate).

The **Wellbeing at Home** tab on our school's website contains a list of resources to support your child's wellbeing at home. If you need to contact your child's teacher, please call the school office on 9587 3963.

Please contact the school office on 9587 3963 or via email hurstville-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au if you have any questions regarding the *Learning from Home* organisation for Week 1 of Term 3 2021.

Mark Steed
Principal
Hurstville Public School
12 July 2021