



Dear Parents, Carers and Students

## **Important Information for parents about returning to school on Wednesday 29 April 2020**

Tuesday 28 April 2020

Welcome back to Term 2.

I understand this may be an uncertain and difficult period for you and your family. It is a personal decision to send your child to school, one that is influenced by each family's circumstances. At Ocean Reef we welcome students back to school. Teachers have missed working face to face with students. Teachers and support staff will be at school, following their normal timetable, ready to support face to face learning in the classroom. Support and learning programs will continue to be offered to families who make the decision for their child to learn at home.

Since the announcement encouraging students to return to school and the recent changes to the social distancing requirements, we have been investigating how we can support every child's educational needs and maintain the safety and wellbeing of staff and students.

Please note the following:

- From Wednesday 29 April, school is open for all students whose parents/carers choose to send them. Teachers, students and support staff will be following their normal timetable;
- Year 10,11 and 12 students are strongly encouraged to attend school to continue their learning program. Teachers will be delivering normal classroom programs, face to face;
- Year 7-9 students are also encouraged to attend school and will be following their normal timetable, receiving face to face support from a teacher. Teachers will be following the course outlines and using the lesson resources created on Connect and/or OneNote. We will continually review all aspects of the back to school transition model;
- Students learning at home will be supported. Students will be accessing their course outlines, online teaching resources or work packages provided, upon request. Teachers will not be required to deliver to students both at school and at home simultaneously. Contact by the school to support and check on student progress, will be made regularly. This will commence early in Week 2 for all students learning at home.

### **Assessments and Exams**

The advice to Year 12 ATAR students from the Curriculum Authority is continue to learn, the end of year exams in November are still occurring.

For all schools, Externally Set Tasks (EST'S) for Year 12's have been postponed at this point in time.

**At Ocean Reef a decision has been made to postpone the Year 10, 11 and 12 Term 2 exams until later in the term.** Therefore, Week 4 and 5 will be normal timetable for all Year 11 and 12 students. All students will attend school. The new exam schedule will be confirmed early Week 2. Further advice regarding assessment and reporting will

come out early next week. The focus remains on continuing to learn, following course outlines, whether at home or at school.

### **Children who Present as Unwell**

Reminder to parents that if your child has a cold or is feeling unwell, please keep them at home until they have completely recovered. As per direction from the Education Department, parents will be asked to immediately collect their child who is feeling or presents as unwell.

### **Excursions, incursions, sporting carnivals and camps**

Following the advice provided, all offsite activities have been postponed until further notice. Outdoor Education and Physical Education lessons will be conducted on school site. Students are expected to bring their PE uniform when timetabled for sport.

Surf Lifesaving Cadets and Emergency Services Cadets are postponed until further notice. The planned activity schedules will need to be reviewed in line with the current health advice. Cadet leaders will be in contact with parents and carers to provide updates on these programs moving forward.

### **Returning of School Equipment and Resources**

All students who are returning to school are asked **as a priority to return all** resources, laptops, texts and equipment on Wednesday. These will be urgently required for teaching. Resources can only be returned via the library, where they will be signed back in. Teachers will NOT be accepting returns from individual students, as resources require cleaning prior to redistribution and use in the classroom.

### **Cleaning and Hygiene**

Additional funding has been provided to all schools to support frequent cleaning of high use areas within the school. Our bathrooms continue to be cleaned throughout the day, are fully stocked with soap and hand dryers. All classrooms have tissues, bins, wipes and sanitiser for student access. I encourage however, all students to bring their own sanitiser and tissues to further mitigate health risks. Signage is located throughout the school and daily reminders are given over the PA about the importance of good hygiene.

### **Water bottles**

**Every student needs to bring their own water bottle.** While drinking troughs and fountains are cleaned regularly, the healthiest option for students is to use their personal water bottle.

### **Physical distancing**

The State government has changed advice regarding social distancing requirements for schools. Following revised health advice, students can work in groups, engage in sport and play activities during break times, and share equipment. Our focus will be on minimising direct physical contact between students, this includes during physical education lessons, where activities have been modified to include only noncontact sport. Minimising physical contact will also be a focus of school signage and PA notices.

### **Access to School, Parking and Drop Off**

As per State Government advice, parents are asked to drop their child/children at the school gate. Please do not enter the school grounds, this includes car parks. The front office reception will be closed to parents and visitors. Parents need to phone/email the school should they have any queries or to make a pre agreed appointment.

### **Transport**

Transperth has advised that from Wednesday 29 April, the normal pre COVID 19 weekly timetable, including school specials and services that deviate via schools will operate.

### **Canteen**

The canteen will be closed on Wednesday 29 April. Students will need to bring their own food and drink to school. The P&C will advise of a shortened takeaway menu via Facebook and Connect on Wednesday 29 April.

For the latest information and advice from the Chief Medical Officer, I refer you to the guidelines below and the link for the health department. We will continue to update our website with the latest notices and information for parents to access.

[Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) coronavirus \(COVID-19\) statements on 24 April 2020](#)

<https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/>

We want all families, children and staff to feel supported and informed during this time. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions and a member of the team will return your call or email.

I thank you for your continued support as we navigate this together.

Kind regards

Karon Brookes

Principal, Ocean Reef Senior High School