



Dungowan Public School

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Dear Parents

Message from Mark Scott – Secretary, Department of Education

The situation with COVID-19 continues to develop and I wanted to confirm with all of you directly what will be happening through this week. I want to thank each and every one of you for our commitment to your students and our critical work through these exceptional times.

Schools remains open

The health advice on schools is unchanged. It is safe for our schools to be open and continue to operate. We have seen attendance rates fall significantly over the last week and we expect that trend to continue. The decision of an increasing number of families electing to keep their children at home would have made it exceptionally difficult for teachers to run regular classes while meeting needs of learners off campus.

Parents are being supported in their choice to keep their children at home and we believe an increasing numbers of parents will choose to do so.

It is vital that our doors remain open for those parents who cannot make that choice. Those parents who work in our health system, education system, emergency services and other essential workers need to be able to access suitable supervision of their child's learning on school sites. We recognise too that there are some high needs children for whom school is a better and safer option.

There may also be occasions where students will need to attend school, even if they are studying at home: like completing a major work project for the HSC, or possibly collecting and delivering back study materials.

Schools continue to operate, but with much fewer students, who are receiving supervision as they complete units of work, not traditional classroom experiences.

Dungowan Public School teachers will be meeting tomorrow working on a central learning hub for all students to access while at school or at home. In the meantime students have access to Mathletics, Phonics Hero, Studyladder and Typing Tournament.

The Department has created a Learning Hub which can be accessed from the Department Site. Parents can access Stage appropriate learning activities from here.

I will issue another note tomorrow to communicate the method teachers will use to deliver these teaching units. All students will be given the same unit of work whether they are at school or home schooled. Teachers will become supervisors to create a uniform delivery of learning programs.

I must stress that you and your child's well-being is priority. Please be in contact if you have questions or anything that you are not sure of.

Kind Regards
Kerri-Anne Hubbl