



Rivergums Primary School

COVID - 19 Learning at Home Policy 2021

Distance Learning Support

As a result of the COVID 19 global health crisis and resulting decision for our school to be closed we are prepared for students to learn at home through various initiatives and online platforms.

At Rivergums Primary School we understand that in these unprecedented times this may be a challenge for many of our families. We appreciate that distance-learning will look and feel different for everyone given individual family circumstances. We are working hard to make this process as simple and as successful as we can. We trust the following information will support all families make the best decisions for their family as we work together through this time.

What is Distance Learning?

We are planning to provide a continuation of learning from home in the event that our school is closed due to a lockdown. Teachers are ready to go with a combination of online learning and work packages that families can access to support their child's learning at home. We believe first and foremost the health and well being of our families is the priority at this time and as such parents can be flexible and modify the learning to meet the needs of their family. We plan to deliver education through online, face to face and paper methods with teachers deciding to do and use what they know is best for their students in the learning program.

How will it work?

Teachers will create plans ready for families to access through Seesaw, our school prefer home/class communication platform. The plan provides sufficient work and activities that are a combination of revision and consolidation. Teachers will continue to play the role as the instructional experts students are expected to engage in the teaching and learning program. To achieve this our teachers will be in regular contact with their students. Parents are not expected to take the place of teachers, however, there are now further opportunities for parents to become critical and active partners in their child's learning.

Class Plans

The home learning plan will:

- Contain a combination of
- Learning that requires internet/online connectivity and;
- Learning that can be completed without technology
- Allow students to work at home with basic materials
- Contain a combination of revision of previous learning and new curriculum not yet covered in class

- Require students to read every day
- Require students to write every day
- Have a focus on English and Mathematics
- Complete 'must do' activities that are to be submitted to the teacher for feedback
- Integrate learning and provide opportunities that are fun and engaging
- Outline what can be done through the day, the order and time it is completed is to be considered within individual family circumstances
- Be posted by the class teacher on Seesaw

We have deliberately not provided learning times or a timetable for the day. Each family is different, each child is different and therefore the circumstances to engage in and complete the learning tasks will be different. Parents will make the best decisions around their individual circumstances for that day. Older students should have a level of autonomy on their learning whilst younger students will require more support and guidance. Our underlying philosophy, however, is to keep things simple for all families and not add to any anxiety that is being experienced in our community.

Staying connected

We will prioritise staying connected with our families and importantly our students. We know many of our students want to hear from their teacher, and parents would like to have some questions answered along the way. Our communication expectations will be:

- Seesaw, email, phone and website
- Parents to use Seesaw or email to ask the teacher any questions or seek support. This is to be done before 9.00am each day. Teachers will respond to any query between 9.00am-3.00pm each day via phone, email or Seesaw
- Teachers will create a daily schedule where they connect with each child in their class once per week via phone
- Teachers will post messages to students via Seesaw
- Students will submit the teacher 'must do' identified tasks through Seesaw to their teacher for feedback
- Teachers will provide feedback to students on the work submitted. This will occur through Seesaw
- Teachers in some instances will negotiate the methods of providing feedback based on the circumstances of families

Key things for parents to remember

We don't expect you to be the teacher, do what you can and go easy on yourself and your child. The priority at this time is your family's health and wellbeing.

We will communicate regularly with you through Skoolbag, Facebook and email. You can contact your teacher through via email or Seesaw. Teachers will respond during school hours 9.00am-3.00pm.

Reach out to other families, check in with them to see that everyone is ok!

We can provide print materials for any family that does not have access to digital technology.

Keep up to date with the daily WA Government announcements to ensure you are aware of latest advice and guidelines.

One of the first activities you might like to do with your child is to plan and then create your home learning environment.

An environment in which your child feels comfortable and able to focus on learning will work best.

You may have a regular place for your child to do their homework under normal circumstances, but this space may not be suitable for working in for an extended period of time.

A space/location for extended learning is best if it's a public/family space, and preferably not in a bedroom.

It should be a place that can be quiet at times and have a strong wireless internet signal, if possible.

Above all, it should be a space where you or another adult is able to monitor your child's learning as much as possible.

Ways of Learning at Home

1. Online via Seesaw
2. At home via prepared paper work packages for those families without access to devices or the internet
3. Connected Learning Hub for teachers:
<https://connect.det.wa.edu.au/group/staff/ui/connected-learning/care-and-connection>
4. Online via the DoE Learning at Home website for parents: www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home

Paper based learning

Some students may not have access to devices to undertake online learning. If families do not have devices available for the students to use, teachers will provide printed work packages. Parents will need to inform the school on by Wednesday if they require a printed work package for the following week.

Collection/Drop Off

Printed work packages will be available to be picked up from the school each Friday morning from the undercover area the week ahead. This pack will include a suggested weekly timetable and reflect the same outcomes as the learning online programs.

Student and Family Wellbeing

We expect our children to have many questions and concerns at this time. We believe the priority for all of our school community is our individual health and wellbeing. We are here to continue to offer this important support to students and families. Please make contact and reach out to us when you need support by email

on rivergums.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Teachers can also be contacted through their individual email address or the school email above where parents/carers wish to discuss any concerns about their child.

We recommend the following services for families where emergency situations require expert health support and advice.

Child and Adolescent Health Services Urgent Mental Health Support – 1800 048 636

Kids Helpline- 1800 551 800

Lifeline- 13 11 44

Beyond Blue- 1300 224 636