



Dear Calwell Families,

It has been great to welcome our students to Term 2, albeit online. It has been pleasing to see that most of our students have checked in with their teachers, engaged in tasks and activities, posted some of their work and/or hung out with their peers from home or at the Gordon Primary Safe and Supportive Site. This week we had our first whole school staff meeting online – a new experience.

Attendance

We are required to continue daily roll marking during this period while students are learning from home. Class teachers have asked their students to 'check-in' via Google Classroom as close to 9am as possible each school day (this 'check-in' takes less than a minute). If your child is not participating in online learning for the day, please contact your child's teacher by email advising whether:

1. your child is unwell, OR
2. you will be making an alternative arrangement for the day

Your child will then be marked as an 'Explained absence' or if we haven't been advised an 'unexplained absence' in which case you will receive an SMS. If 'checking in' was overlooked/forgotten please respond to the SMS letting us know that your child is either sick, not able to participate today Or is engaged in the online learning.

Key Messages

- Learning and teaching from home is very different to being at school and some initial challenges and problems were not unexpected. At Calwell we have been able to resolve many of these and are continuing to monitor closely how things are going. Based on teacher, student and parent/carer feedback, we are making adjustments when we can to content and delivery.
- Of most importance is that student learning is as positive as possible and that stress within families and for teachers, is kept to a minimum. We understand that parents/carers are feeling some stress and uncertainty about how to manage both working from home and supervising remote learning. Our teachers are in the same position. We can all only do our best on any given day.
- Please be aware that not all students will complete the same amount of work, this is the same at school. Class teachers will monitor and talk with their students about their classwork. As a general rule, English and Mathematics should be prioritised and if possible, done daily. Family wellbeing is the most important thing at this time and with the exception of Google Meets, learning activities can be completed at a time that suits your family. School work can be done at different times of the day or even on different days, and if tasks don't get done that's okay. Calwell Primary's approach to learning from home promotes flexibility with some formal learning and structure in each day.
- Currently, the role of the Leadership Team is to support teachers and families and to trouble shoot. If at any time you are unsure about a learning activity, are experiencing difficulty juggling priorities or have a concern or complaint; please phone the school on 6142 1900 between 9am and 3pm. The Leadership Team are available to assist you and the class teachers.
- Teachers are doing their best to set a variety of work. This includes providing video meets, accessing programs such as Reading Eggs, Matific, Epic and Study Ladder, as well as setting tasks or activities, some of which require resources you may have at home such as lego, cooking materials etc. We understand that some of these tasks may not be able to be completed by all students, as not everyone will have access to the materials required, this is also the case for students attending the Safe & Supportive Sites. Teachers are providing sufficient work and are supporting access to a wide range of educational activities to engage students across a day. We DO NOT expect you to replicate a 9-3 school day and DO NOT expect or want your child to be online all day. Work online should be broken up with regular breaks and physical activity

Safe and Supervised Sites

The Safe and Supervised Sites are available for students who, for any reason, are unable to do their learning from home. There are many reasons why a student may need to attend a site, including vulnerable students and students of parents who are essential workers. No child will be turned away. Parents and carers must ensure they register their child/ren to attend the sites by calling [6205 8495](tel:62058495) for assistance between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

2021 Enrolments

Enrolments for next year have commenced this week. Families who have a child to be enrolled in preschool, transitioning to another ACT Public School, or a Year 6 student moving on to an ACT Public High School are encouraged to apply before 5 June 2020 in order to receive an offer of a place from 27 July 2020. Apply online at www.education.act.gov.au

We look forward to supporting you and your child/ren to have a positive and productive Term 2.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by email linda.neeson@ed.act.edu.au or phone 6142 1900 if needed.

Kind regards



Linda Neeson
Principal