



Albany Rise Primary School

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COVID-19 (coronavirus) Update Remote Learning @ Home Wednesday 8th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the announcement yesterday that schools will definitely be transitioning to Remote and Flexible learning, Albany Rise staff and school leadership have been working solidly to ensure communication, resources and support for families is as accessible and useful as possible.

Today, all ARPS staff met through 'Webex Meetings' online for almost 2 hours to further develop and streamline some of the practices we will be using in Term 2.

We are still awaiting information from the Department of Education regarding the process for any students who are unable to be supervised at home, to attend school. However, this message is clear: **from the start of Term 2, Wednesday 15th April, all students who can learn from home MUST learn at home.**

Schools have been advised, the following criteria applies:

1. **All students will be learning from home**, except for students in the following categories –

- a. Children on days when they are not able to be supervised at home and no other arrangements can be made. This will be available for children of parents who cannot work from home, and vulnerable children, including:
 - children in out-of-home care
 - children deemed by Child Protection and/or Family Services to be at risk of harm
 - children identified by the school as vulnerable (including via referral from a family violence agency, homelessness or youth justice service or mental health or other health service and children with a disability).

A process for arranging school 'on site' supervision to students in exceptional circumstances, and who have no other available supervision when school resumes, is being developed and information about this process should be available soon.

Students are NOT expected to just 'turn up' on the first day of term if their parent/s are working and no other supervision is available.

I understand that for many parents this is an incredibly difficult time, with the challenges of attempting to work from home (or job loss), social isolation practices, shopping challenges,

travel restrictions and then doing the best to ensure children continue their education, all at home.

As has been said by many 'We are all in this together'. Our ARPS community has always worked well to support each other in times of great need. Globally, we are all experiencing huge changes to our daily lives and routines. Now is the time to show the 'best' of our community, and be *kind* to ourselves and each other as we navigate this ever changing 'new normal' together.

To help assess some of the needs of our families, and in response to community messages today, an online ARPS survey is being developed to assess student needs for access to technology and other resources. I hope to have this survey available to parents very soon.

I will communicate again with families as soon as new information is available.

Take care

Judy Drew