

Principal: *Sally Wright*

Deputy Principal: *Bernie Lipman*

Governing Council Chairperson: *Donna Felder*

Dates to Remember

**Thursday 9th
April 2020**

Student Free Day
Holidays Start

**Monday 27th
April 2020**

Term 2 Start

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing a brief newsletter update today, as you have had many communications recently and I do not wish to overwhelm you with more documents.

I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for your understanding of the four student free days our staff have had this week. It has allowed us to take a breath as a school and work together to make considered choices in building our learning from home and learning on site processes for Term 2.

I would also like to say how extremely proud I am of our staff. The commitment, willingness and energy demonstrated this week in developing our new teaching approaches is to be commended and applauded. They have been creative, collaborative and amazing as we have completely reinvented our traditional teaching and schooling models. I am privileged to work with them.

Later today, all families will receive an update via email and Facebook. This will give further detail regarding the actual approaches to teaching in Term 2. To support this, I have included some of the frequently asked questions that are arising as we work. Please remember that at the moment, current Department for Education advice, received from our Chief Medical Officer, is that schools will remain open. Any changes to this will be communicated to families. Please continue to check emails and our school Facebook page regularly.

Finally, I would like to take this time to say congratulations to our whole school community. We have navigated one of the most unprecedented times that we could ever have imagined. Please enjoy some family time over a very unique and different holiday period.

Take care and stay safe.

Sally

Our Learning SA Website: <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa>



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH EVERYTHING

LOXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Absence text only
0447158038

MISSED A NEWSLETTER!
visit our website

www.loxtonps.sa.edu.au

Term Calendar



[www.loxtonps.sa.edu.au/
calendar.htm](http://www.loxtonps.sa.edu.au/calendar.htm)

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Lunches available on
Monday, Wednesday
and Friday. Download
the QKR app on your
device and place your
order before 8am.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Below is a list of commonly asked questions that we have tried to answer for you as best we can:

What will learning look like in Term 2?

The learning for Term 2 content has been developed this week by class teachers during the Pupil Free Days. What will be different is that our staff will have a learning from home and a learning on site program developed for all children to access. Teams of teachers from like year levels will work together to deliver core curriculum along with capability building options that incorporate learning from our Specialist teachers.

The learning from home content will follow what is being covered in class as closely as we can. You are not expected to plan the learning content for your children. It will be provided by the school.

The learning from home and learning on site may be a mixture of work with an introduction from the teacher, some digital programs, some video clips to watch and some learning work they can do independently.

Will my child have their same teacher?

Teachers will be planning and teaching in teams. Your child will have some lessons with their teacher but may experience other teachers from the year level team throughout the day. Don't worry, each class teacher will be keeping a close eye on their 'own' students and will frequently touch base with them to keep in touch.

Do I have to teach my child/ren?

Depending on the age and ability of the child, parents will support or direct the children using the program outlined but personal parent suggestions from the online lesson may also occur.

Teachers may choose to use an online streaming platform to provide explicit teaching to you at home whilst they are teaching the students who remain at school. The Department has produced a platform for us to do this but we are still investigating this and it may be something offered as time goes on. Teachers are already talking about filming themselves in some short video clips to help you with the learning process at home and these will be sent through Class Dojo/ Seesaw for you to access at home.

You will receive information about how to log in and when to log in during the last week of holidays.

How do I manage more than one person at a time at home (having children of varying year levels)?

The learning content being provided by the year level teachers is a guide and you are free to move around the content to best suit your needs in the home. We understand you won't have multiple devices for all your children to access and we also appreciate that you simply may not be able to cover all that has been planned. We see this as trying to maintain the learning process but just in a different context. Our staff will provide assistance and guidance as necessary. We also have teachers planning tasks that are able to be self-managed by the students. The daily content will include a range of activities which can be done independently, with some support, online software and some viewing. Parents may also decide not to do some activities or to change some.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED



What devices do I need? What if they are old?

A general rule of thumb: If you have a computer, laptop, iPad or tablet that is less than 5 years old then you should be fine with managing learning from home. You yourself would know that old technology would be really slow and not manage. You don't need a particular type, you do not need to go out and purchase new devices. You manage with what you can during the pandemic.

I don't have a device for my child.

The teachers are aware that not all family homes are the same. They will plan to cater for students with and without devices at home. Each child will receive a work pack to be collected or posted and will contain all the work that is required for the week. It would just mean that on the outline you don't do the tasks requiring internet and a laptop for example if you don't have the capacity to do that at home. Those families who have indicated that they don't have a learning device will be able to continue to access packs of work for their child.

Are we saying that children can't attend school in Term 2?

No, we are not saying that, it is the parent's decision at present. The advice from Australia's Chief Medical Officer and Prime Minister is that schools will remain open. No child will be turned away. Individual sites will only be temporarily closed if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19. We will then follow our protocol in line with SA Health. If your situation changes at home and you would like to change your mind regarding your child/ren and their learning, please do so.

Will the school be offering their devices for families to use at home?

No, not at present as we do not have the capacity to do this as they are setup around school filtering and internet capabilities. If families do not have any devices we will provide packs of work.

What will the classes at school look like at school?

At the moment we are planning in Year level teams. Year level team Teachers will manage learning on site classes and learning at home classes. We can't say exactly what classes look like until we know exact numbers which will occur in Week 1, Term 2. We are currently expecting to have a class for each year level face-to-face and a learning at home for each year level.

I'm worried that my child will fall behind in their learning.

Although this may be a common feeling, please don't worry. This is new for everyone and every child around the world is in the same situation. We will be working very hard to meet the needs of all children. We will be providing feedback for students who are at home as well as those at school. If students engage in the learning at home to the best of their ability and follow the learning program, the children will progress. When students return to school, teachers will reassess children and work from there. This is different and we will work together and understand that all children progress at different rates.

My child has special needs how will their learning needs be catered for?

Teachers have been working on developing learning programs that cater for all learners that they can follow. If your child has special needs, staff have developed personalised resources, materials (and online content where possible) for your child at home and at school. The program will be regularly reviewed and adapted to suit the needs of students and their learning.

Will the school keep in contact with the students who are learning from home?

Staff will continue to touch base with families to 'check in' on student wellbeing, class work or just a chat. We will not bother you with daily phone calls but class Apps such as Class Dojo/ Seesaw may be used to keep a clear line of communication open. Equally, if families have questions about learning content, then please use the class App to communicate with your class teacher or phone the school and leave a message. Please understand someone from the year level team will get back to you when a suitable time is available.