



COVID-19 Update for Families

Dear Families,

As the situation in regard to COVID-19 continues to evolve, the department continues planning and operating in accordance with advice from SA Health to support the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and the broader community.

The following information is provided following an update received today and is being communicated to all families in Holdfast Partnership Schools - Brighton, Paringa Park, Warradale, Glenelg and St Leonards:

Schools will remain open: The advice from Australia's Prime Minister and Chief Medical Officer is that schools will remain open. Individual sites will only be temporarily closed if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19. Should this situation occur in any of our sites, we will follow protocols in line with SA Health.

As of Monday 23 March, the Department for Education has instructed us to cease after-school and inter-school sports activities. As a result, **all after school hours sports and involvement in SAPSASA events/ carnivals** for children in our schools have been cancelled for the remainder of this term. This is a precautionary measure to protect those most vulnerable in the community.

Movement of families, volunteers and service providers in and out of schools: In the interests of social distancing, the following will be actioned across our Partnership sites, effective immediately:

- Discontinuation of any volunteers in the school
- No non-DfE Service providers on site
- Department for Education Service Providers only to be able to continue in the school
- We encourage all families to use Kiss and Drop and if you must take your child to their classroom please stay outside the classroom unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- At the end of the school day, again we encourage the use of Kiss and Drop or if not possible, make an arrangement to meet your child on the school boundary. In the case of younger children, please meet them outside the classroom and keep your time to a minimum.
- For all families, we request that you leave the school grounds promptly before/after school.

All of the above activities see a wide range of community members accessing our schools, often from vulnerable cohorts such as grandparents, and so should be limited at this time. **All of these arrangements will remain in place until further notice.**

As schools, we are constantly reinforcing personal hygiene and maintaining hygiene standards in our school, which we know are critical to reducing the risk of infection. All children and staff are directed to:

- wash their hands regularly, particularly after using the toilet and before eating
- avoid spreading infections to others by staying home if they are unwell
- cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue.

In addition we have a directive today that there is to be no class parties and/or sharing of food.

As we all know, things are moving quickly. The department is working closely with SA Health to ensure we have access to the latest advice on how to keep our staff, our students and community safe.

If your contact details have changed recently, **please ensure the front office has your updated contact details**, including email address and mobile number. This is very critical as we may need to contact families at short notice.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and support in these unprecedented times. Take care.

Kind regards,

Josh Vick