



## DARDANUP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**PRINCIPAL: Darryl Owen**

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you all for your support in what was one of the most unusual starts to a school term we have ever seen. Together, we have been able to make the best of this situation and ensure your child's safety and continuity of learning.

Yesterday, the State Government announced changes to education based on a review of current arrangements and updated health advice.

**As of Monday, 18 May 2020 all students must attend school, except for those students medically referred to learn from home.**

This means students are either:

- at school;
- have a medical referral to learn from home; or
- recorded as absent if they do not attend.

Over the last three weeks we have seen 84% of students return to schools across the state, which has been fantastic.

Current health advice states that schools remain safe for staff and students and should remain open. We want to make sure all children get the best education possible, which is why attending school is so important. We are here to make sure all children are learning and there's no doubt, schools are the best place for them to learn.

For parents with confirmed, written medical advice that their child should not attend school, we will work with you in partnership with the School of Special Educational Needs: Medical and Mental Health, to support your child's learning from home. If you feel your child is in this category, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will work together on next steps.

If your child does not attend school and does not have a medical reason, they will be marked as absent and will not be provided a learning program. Next week we will be sending all families a summary of unexplained absences for their children so we can "tidy up" your child's attendance records for the year so far.

The extra cleaning and hygiene practices implemented at the start of Term 2 will continue.

As part of the social distancing measures, parents and carers must drop children at the existing agreed locations and not enter the school grounds.

Whole school assemblies, excursions, interschool activities and other school community events are still not permitted. The school will award Merit Certificates and Manners Masters Certificates over the school's public address system next Friday.

The State Government will continue to make decisions based on the best health advice.

If you have any questions or need to discuss this further, please call or email.

Kind regards

Darryl Owen

Principal

Dardanup Primary School

15<sup>th</sup> May 2020