



CHELTENHAM EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Onsite School Closure from 29/07/2020

30/07/20

Dear Parents

I hope that this finds you safe and well.

There have been five Kingston Network schools closed so far for deep cleaning, after confirmed COVID cases had been linked to the schools. The Health services are still back tracking and contact tracing which is why the closure and re-opening procedures takes so long. When a school is closed, generally on short notice, no one is allowed onsite for any reason, including all staff and students. Thank you to Mr Crebbin who managed to get an SMS out alerting all parents to check Sentral and Dojo so we didn't have any families turning up to school on Wednesday morning. Mrs Ward and I were on duty outside the school Wednesday morning just in case someone missed the message.

There was certainly some scrambling by myself and Mrs Ward when the communications came through from the Health Department and the Education Department. We had to get the communications out and cancel outside organisations including Camp Australia so they didn't come into the school. Rest assured the school had been following the strict health and hygiene guidelines from the Health Department including sanitation processes, extra cleaning and temperature checks upon arrival for staff and students every morning.

The school will be notified by the Regional Director as to when we can reopen. I have a meeting scheduled with the Department Cleaning Unit Supervisor on Saturday at 1pm to hopefully re-open the school. 72 hours seems to be the minimum time to close a school so cleaning processes can take place and if tracking and tracing is still occurring it could take longer. As soon as we have notification that the school can re-open, we will let the community know so we can continue to supervise the essential workers children and provide on-site learning for those children. Remote learning lessons will continue to be provided as normal. Please note the Government announcement, if people can work from home, they should work from home.

Our amazing teachers continue to connect the children with the curriculum and provide rich learning experiences to improve student learning outcomes. It's a good time to remind parents that you are not expected to teach the children but to ensure your children are supervised when they connect in to Google Classroom and Google Meet sessions. I am hopeful that we will not need to enact this process again and that we will remain free of this virus in the future.

Take care. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Regards

Wayne Bach

Principal

Cheltenham East PS