



School Update No. 6 - Term 2 Learning Programs

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This is the final update for term 1.

Over the last four days all staff have worked collaboratively and built on each other's strengths to design the curriculum program for term 2. The program will be delivered either face to face – Learning at School or online – Learning at Home. Both modes will stem from the same planned curriculum program, so families can be assured that what is being taught at school is the same as what is being taught online. More detailed information about the learning at home can be found later in this update.

I would like to congratulate all the staff for their outstanding work over the last five weeks. We have been faced with situations on a daily and often hourly basis, that have challenged our thinking, tested our resolve and exhausted our reserves. Through all of this, the staff have seen the silver lining within difficult situations, identified new opportunities and maintained a calm classroom and school environment. It has been one of the most difficult periods and having said that, I am proud to say, we have finished this term in a place of confidence ready to begin term 2.

With the holidays on our doorstep, it is vital that we all take the opportunity to rest and regain our energy, ready for the beginning of the term, where we will once again be faced with unknown challenges. Please do not contact teachers directly during the two week break. For urgent enquiries please contact the front office on 83317512 between 8am – 3pm daily excluding public holidays, or email dl.0699.admin@schools.sa.edu.au The staff will do their best to assist you with any enquiries.

Please be assured that should there be any significant changes of direction from the Department, I will ensure these are communicated to you through the usual Edsmart communication channel.

I thank you for your support and understanding and wish you a Happy Easter and quality family time during the two week period.

Kind Regards,

Susan Copeland
Principal
9th April 2020

Learning at School

All students and families are familiar with this mode as it is the usual way our school operates. Some minor changes may be necessary such as combining classes where numbers are low.

The specialist team have been preparing this week to be ready to deliver learning in the two modes for term 2. At this stage, we know we will have to implement some changes to ensure the full specialist program delivery across the school. We ask for your patience at the beginning of the term as we develop a solution suitable for all students and staff.



Learning at Home

The information below is designed to give you an understanding of what learning at home looks like and what to expect in term 2. It is also here to assist you to set up a successful learning at home environment for your children.

As a supervisor of learning at home, we are not expecting you to 'teach' your children. Your children are at school for 6 hours per day, learning from a variety of adults in all learning areas within the Australian Curriculum. It is impossible, and you are not expected to, replicate the classroom environment and deliver the full curriculum at home.

What we are offering is called 'learning at home'. Teachers will be available at certain times, to assist you to support your child/ren to continue their learning whilst learning at home. Just to clarify, this is not 'Home-Schooling'. Home Schooling in Australia, is a conscious choice by parents involving an application and accreditation process.

Whilst learning at home, it is important for students to maintain a sense of routine, ensuring that they have a balance of work, exercise, rest and sleep. Please read the following information which outlines our structures here at Burnside and is based on the current information we have from the Department for Education.

Teachers will:

- continue to communicate with parents in the same way they have previously eg. Seesaw, Schoology, email etc.
- make contact with parents 2-3 times per week
- continue to collaborate with each other to ensure continuity of learning across year levels
- send term overviews to parents at the beginning of term 2 as usual
- use a weekly timetable that is consistent across the school
- provide learning intentions on the weekly timetable to enable parents to understand and support the goal of the lesson
- check in with their students daily
- ensure learning tasks include a balance of online and offline activities
- support students with specific learning needs with appropriate modifications and adjustments within learning activities
- deliver the same curriculum program either face to face or as learning at home

How We Will Connect

Seesaw Rec-3

Teachers will:

- use Seesaw to provide updates to parents as well as provide home learning for students
- upload a weekly timetable for parents and students that contains the lesson topic and learning intentions
- provide a means for students to check in each morning
- may record a video message for students at the beginning of the week
- may set up video meetings with students in the future and in this case will communicate the required instructions and expectations with you at that time



Google Classroom 3/4-7

Teachers will:

- use Google Classroom to provide home learning for students
- upload a weekly timetable for parents and students that contains the lesson topics and the learning intentions
- provide a means for student check in each morning
- use Google Meet, when ready as a way to meet and collaborate with students and will forward instructions and expectations in due course



Google Classroom



How you can support your child



Students need routine and certainty.

You can support your child by:

- creating clear routines and expectations
- providing a safe and quiet space to work in
- supervising them at a level appropriate to their development
- checking in with them often to help manage and pace their work
- monitoring how much time they spend online and balancing this with physical activity
- keeping all school work in the one place
- checking communications from teachers and staying in contact with your child's school

Set up a learning space at home

Every home is different. A quiet and comfortable learning space will help your child learn. Some students may have usual places where they do their homework. This space might not be suitable to study or learn at for a long time.

The best learning space is:

- a shared family space, such as a lounge room or dining room (not in their bedroom)
- a place that can be quiet at times
- near a strong internet or wifi signal
- somewhere that an adult is present and monitoring the learning
- near the items your child needs for learning, including stationery and power points
- free from trip hazards
- open, with natural light and without glare
- somewhere with a comfortable chair and desk or table

Create routines and expectations

Setting up expectations and routines will help your child learn.

You can do this by:

- maintaining normal morning and evening routines
- having your child wear their school uniform during the day
- structuring the day with regular mealtimes and bedtimes
- setting up the day based on their regular schedule or timetable
- starting and ending each day with a 'check-in'
- making sure they understand what's expected of them
- encouraging regular food and drink break times throughout the day, as well as small breaks for stretching or to move around
- checking in with them throughout the day to help keep them focused and on track

Communicate with your child and stay connected

You can stay involved with your child's learning by asking them questions. This helps them to manage the instructions they receive from the school and to set priorities for their learning.

At the start of the day, ask:

- What are you learning today?
- What are your learning targets or goals?
- How will you be spending your time?
- What resources do you need?
- What support do you need?

At the end of the day, ask:

- What did you learn from today?
- What did you like about today's activities?
- What was challenging? How can we work through the challenge?
- What went well today? Why was it good?
- Are you ok? Do you need to ask your teacher for something?
- Do you need help with something to help tomorrow be more successful?



Frequently Asked Questions



Will we get another home learning pack?

No, teachers have already distributed a home learning pack to each child. These packs were originally put together in case of a school shut down and before we were preparing for online learning. They are designed to be used with flexibility; some parents have been using them in the last few weeks when they have chosen to keep their children at home, some parents may use the packs during the pupil free days this week or in the holidays and others will use them from Term 2 as additional, offline learning tasks. There is no pressure around these packs and work does not need to be sent back to school for marking.

What will online learning look like?

Teachers have been working hard to familiarise themselves with new online platforms and to develop content that is consistent with and progresses from the learning that has already taken place in Term 1. Home learning will be a mixture of lesson instruction from the teacher, some digital programs, video clips to watch and tasks to complete. It will look different in each year level and will be a mixture of online and offline learning.

Will there be streamed lessons in real-time?

Teachers may choose to use an online streaming platform to provide explicit teaching while they are teaching students at school. Teachers may also record themselves teaching to post online or may use conferencing platforms to meet with the students. As you can appreciate there are many tools available that we are investigating and delivery methods will evolve.

What will the classes at school look like?

It is difficult to know this exactly without knowing definite numbers. We are looking at various ways of combining students across year levels while still maintaining social distancing practices. We expect that students will have their class teacher some of the time but may also have another teacher delivering lessons as well. School learning and home learning will be aligned for consistency of classwork, goals, objectives and assessment.

Am I expected to assess and mark my own students work?

No. Assessment of home learning is something we are working through and we will continue to investigate the best ways to assess, give feedback and determine the next steps in learning for each student. Individual teachers in different year levels will develop their own ways of doing this.

Will the teacher keep in touch with the students who are at home?

Teachers will be in regular contact with students and families. Teachers are working on ways that students can check in daily and also ways for students to be able to ask questions when they need to. Parents are asked to email whenever they have questions but please be aware of appropriate times for making contact and that teachers may not be able to respond to you immediately. We want to keep the lines of communication open and we are here to support and help you at home in any way we can.

How do I manage more than one student at home?

We have set up a consistent weekly schedule across the school for this reason. We understand that in some cases there may be 2, 3 or more children and 2 adults all trying to work from home. The daily content will include a range of activities; some can be done independently and some may require support. Please feel free to work within the schedule in a way that suits your family and do not worry if you don't complete all of the planned activities.

General communication from the school will continue through Edsmart (email), School Stream and the Burnside Primary Official facebook page

