



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you and your families well in the extraordinary and challenging times we are living in.

School is open for business as usual until further notice. We have been advised that for students whose parents have chosen to keep them home, without seeking medical advice, we are under no obligation to provide curriculum work and activities, as the priority for staff is to maintain focus on classroom learning programs. However, we are committed to our students and school community and our dedicated team of teachers and support staff are working tirelessly to provide as much curriculum work and activities on Connect and in work packages, as possible in an effort to minimise the disruption to student learning.

For parents who voluntarily withdraw students from school, please refer to our **Connect** pages set up with student work. Students in Year 11 and 12 will have access to all their WACE online learning courses in order for them to work through and submit completed work. It is vital that the school is informed if your children do not have internet or computer access at home. Every effort will be made to provide alternative arrangements where necessary.

Connect trouble shooting –

- Connect Now App - You can only access notifications via the Connect Now app. You need to make sure you have the latest version of the app downloaded. This will give you regular updates from your classroom teacher as they post them.
- To access Submissions, Content, Discussions and the library in your children's classes, you will need to log into Connect through the browser e.g. chrome or internet explorer. The address you need to go to is <https://connect.det.wa.edu.au/>
- This will take you to the department of Education sign in page. In here you need to enter your p number and password. If you haven't logged in before you can create your own password. There's also a Forgot password button if you do not remember your password and you can re-set your password.

Students must continue to practice social distancing and be hyper vigilant with hygiene and hand washing. Parents are expected to have students remain at home and avoid public places, crowds and the risk of exposure to the COVID-19.

The Department of Education released a new website, [Learning at home](#), yesterday with resources for parents, caregivers and students. The website is now available and resources will continue to be added over the coming weeks. These resources, activities and information is provided to help children and young people continue to learn while at home during this challenging time.

Learning at home – website <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home>

Your children, especially younger children, may be scared of things they have seen or heard, or maybe simply feeling more vulnerable than usual in these extraordinary times we are living in. Unfortunately, it looks like the situation is likely to get worse before it gets better.

My advice to parents wanting to home-school in this time, is to make students feel safe and secure at home. Cuddle up together and read, take turns in reading, read them your favourite novel, do a puzzle, play a board game, build a fort, bake, garden, paint, craft, sew, crochet, knit, get out the Lego and build together, set up a tent in the living room or on the back lawn and camp together, look at old photos together. Don't stress. Your children will remember this time always.

In the event of a temporary school closure, further advice will be provided.

Take care and keep safe.

Kind regards

Tonia Carlisle