



Woy Woy Public School

A PRESCHOOL TO YEAR 6 SCHOOL

Park and Blackwall Roads PO Box 505 Woy Woy NSW 2256

Phone: 4341 3555 Fax: 4344 3927

Email: woywoy-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Guliyali Preschool



"We challenge and support all students to achieve their personal best."

Dear Parents/Carers,

More information on the NSW Department of Education's approach to the unfolding COVID-19 situation has come to light since yesterday's update. The official position of the NSW Government and the NSW Department of Education, as outlined here by Mr Murat Dizdar, Deputy Secretary, School Operations and Performance, is as follows:

"Schools remain open

The health advice on schools remains unchanged. Our Chief Medical Officers indicate that our schools should remain open for education provision at this time.

The Government and Department are encouraging you to keep your child at home from Tuesday 24 March to contribute to supporting the community response to COVID-19. The school's doors will remain open for those students whose parents are in the essential services or who are vulnerable.

As updated expert information comes to the Department, who are in constant liaison with NSW Health we will keep you informed of any impact on school operations.

Supporting continuity of learning for all students

Our staff have been working hard to develop a suite of learning resources and options for students to undertake from home. The Department has developed and will continue to develop resources and offer professional learning to help teachers with this task.

Whether your child is at school or at home, the aim is for all students to access the consistent learning content provided by our school. This may mean sending work home, either with physical materials or by email, or by making use of one of our online platforms at our school.

Support for students at home

I encourage you to access the [Learning from Home](#) resource which provides practical advice to parents and carers on how to best create and support a productive learning environment in the home."

The message here is quite clear. Unless you work in an industry deemed as an essential service – emergency services, health and education – the government of the day is asking you to keep your children at home.

Later today, more specific information about the systems that have been put in place for the completion of school work both on-site and at home will be published on the school app, *for each stage of learning*. (If you do not already have the Woy Woy Public School 'Skoolbag' app please consider downloading the app as soon as you can). In the meantime, you may find the department's 'Advice to Parents and Carers' (to support student success when learning remotely) webpage a useful source of information and advice. The page can be accessed at the following web address:



Woy Woy Public School's mission is to provide a warm, caring, secure place where students and their efforts are valued by a committed staff and an actively supportive community.

I Aspire is our motto. Respect is our job.



<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home/advice-to-parents-and-carers>

In other news, it was communicated to the school that school canteens will cease operations from Wednesday 25th March, until further notice. If you happen to have used 'flexi schools' to order lunch for your child on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, you will need to take measures to cancel your order. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this causes in an already very difficult time.

At the end of the day, the government is assuring us that it is safe for our schools to be open and continue to operate and we are taking them at their word. We will endeavour to keep your children as safe as possible if you choose to send them to school. You can assist us by being mindful of the advice we have sent home about observing 'drop-and-go' and 'pick-up-and-go' procedures. Quite a few parents and carers were observed spending long periods of time on the playground this morning and in the current circumstances this is no longer appropriate.

Finally, we'd like to remind parents though (although we're sure that we don't have to), not to send children to school if they are feeling at all unwell, and to contact the school to obtain work, if you have not yet done so.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding.

Regards,

Ms Ona Buckley and Mr Dan Betts
Principals