

RETURN TO ON SITE LEARNING

Relating to students in Schools in Regional and Rural Victoria

From Monday, 5th October:

- Students enrolled in Prep to Year 6 in standalone primary schools will return to on site learning from Monday, 5th October. Schools have the flexibility to stagger the return of year levels between Monday, 5th October and Friday, 9th October, depending on local circumstances.

This announcement was made last night via the media. **Please disregard all prior communications relating to Week 1 of Term 4 being remote (with on site supervision provided).** Initially we were to return on Monday, 12th October (decided last night at School Council), but now are returning earlier following a change of decision by the Department of Education and Training (DET). If you booked in for on site learning in Week 1, please know this is now not occurring and that on site schooling as normal is happening instead.

As we can return from the first day of Term 4, *Monday, 5th October*, we don't see the need to stagger the return, or delay this any longer. We want our children back in classes with their teachers ASAP. To enable this to happen, we will return ALL students to school on Monday, 5th October – the first day of Term 4. We don't know how long we can be on site – it might be the whole term, or things could change again...so while we can, let's have our children back on site learning with their peers and teachers.

Everyone's done such a great job of remote, but I think the great majority of students, parents/carers and staff are ready to work face-to-face.

I imagine the return to school will be similar to last time (The DET Operations Guide has not been released yet) so to help make it clear for everyone, here's a brief breakdown to prepare you for the return next term:

- **All children return to Big Hill PS on Monday, 5th October, the first day of Term 4**
- All remote learning ceases, as does on site supervision this Friday, 18th September
- **Adults are not allowed on site** during the early stages of Term 4 – please ensure you drop your children off at school and depart. Do not congregate outside school exit/entry points – social distance and ensure you wear a face mask/covering. If you have to come on site, please ensure you do not enter buildings or linger long.
- Children will be dismissed in a staggered way during Term 4 – Preps, Year 1/2's will be dismissed at 3:05pm (along with older siblings). Please be ready to pick children up at this earlier time. Years 3-6 will be dismissed at 3:15pm. The Ravenswood bus will depart earlier at 3:05pm, but will not leave children unattended at bus stops if arriving early and no adult is present. The Kangaroo Flat bus will run as normal – children will just stay on site with a yard duty teacher until the bus arrives.
- At the start of Term 4 (Monday, 5th October), please return children with all learning materials for school
- Whilst the Office is open, please follow social distancing regulations in the foyer by waiting outside until invited in, or when there are fewer than 2 families waiting. Instead of approaching the usual counter, a table has been set up in the foyer with a bell to attract attention.
- If you borrowed an iPad from school, please return it to the Office on return to school. Please make sure they go to the Office so you can be marked off as having returned the iPad
- Our OSHC program will run normally each morning and afternoon – bookings made in the usual way through the Office/Janet Dean Janet.Dean@education.vic.gov.au. **No OSHC bookings will carry forward from Term 3. Please email Janet your requirements for Term 4.**
- Stay tuned for when our canteen will reopen

Only two days of school to go everyone...and an early dismissal Friday at 2:15pm. With restrictions easing, you can travel and socialise...try and make the most of these opportunities with your child/ren.

Stay safe and take care,

Matt Pearce
Principal