



Wheeler Heights Public School

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UPDATE #2 – MONDAY 12 JULY 2021

TERM 3, WEEK 1, 2021 SUPPORTING STUDENT LEARNING FROM HOME

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As advised previously, last week the Department of Education confirmed that for the first week of Term 3, students in Greater Sydney will be learning from home. This will stay in place until Friday 16 July.

Further information is available on the Department site: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

While our school is open, **we encourage you to keep your child at home if possible**. There will only be minimal staff supervision. Please note we cannot confirm prior to each day which teacher/s will be covering certain grades as this will be subject to change depending upon requirements.

Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home and should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom free. In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Learning from Home Arrangements

To ensure students can engage with school work at home, teachers have compiled a suite of lessons that cover multiple aspects of learning. From Tuesday 13 July, these can be accessed through Google Classroom which students open through their DoE Student Portal. The same unit of work is completed whether students are working at home or at school. If you have difficulty accessing technology please contact the school office.

All students who were present at school (and had not already), joined their Google Classroom on Thursday 24 and Friday 25 June. Students in Years 3-6 should know their student log in details as they use this regularly at school. Teachers of students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will email these details to families. *If you do not receive the email by close of business Monday 12 July please advise the school via email.*

Most students have had experience with connecting to Google Classroom at school. However, support to logon, especially for younger students, may be needed by you. Specific details about connecting to Google Classroom are attached.

One of the most valuable aspects of learning is the social construct of knowledge. Although many of these activities are accessible to students individually, learning through each will be enhanced by discussion with you.

Each day this week, there will be a new list of activities in the grade/stage Google Classroom Stream. When students logon to their Google Classroom, there will be a section for them to mark their attendance each day. Your input in their daily tasks will assist them to complete the activities and maintain their excitement for learning. Teachers have included activities for the children to help around the house, utilise critical and creative thinking skills, perform acts of kindness, be physically active and have fun as well as complete literacy and numeracy and other key learning area tasks. Further information regarding the implementation of this can be found in the Learning from Home 2021 – Information Pack.

Our students already have access to the following online platforms:

- Reading Eggs (Kindy – Year 4)
- MathsSeeds (Kindy – Year 2)
- Athletics (Years 3-6).

If you feel your child requires further activities during this time, many online learning providers are presently supplying their services for free during the current situation. Twinkl is one such provider <https://www.twinkl.com.au/> There are many and varied activities for most Key Learning Areas and Stages available on this site.

Additionally, a large number of online providers have been organised in one place. Each is explained within the document so they can be selected carefully <http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/>

When your child is away from school for any period of time, it is advised by the Department of Education that routines around learning and engaging with school programs be established and maintained as well as possible at home. Advice for parents and carers is available online <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home/advice-to-parents-and-carers>

We recognise that some parents may be feeling worried/anxious about assisting their child/ren with online learning at home. Please DO NOT WORRY! Whatever you are able to do with your child is fantastic. We have set up the activities with a timeline as a guide but it is flexible so you can fit it around your own requirements. If you have more than one student at home and only one device the timings will obviously need to change to allow for each student to have time working on the device.

Please **ONLY** contact staff by emailing wheelerhts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au We will continue to share information with you as we receive it from the Department of Education. Thank you for your understanding, flexibility and support of our teachers who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to delivering learning for our students.

Yours sincerely

Simone Rizzuto
Principal

Priscilla Wright
Assistant Principal