



Many Ways to Excellence

# Sunnybank

## STATE HIGH SCHOOL

19 April 2020

Dear Sunnybank Parents and Caregivers

On behalf of myself and all our staff, I would like to thank you, our wonderful Sunnybank parent community for your patience, support and understanding, as together, we negotiate a completely new way of schooling for the first five weeks of Term 2. As we travel this new road together, both as parents and educators, I am sure that this different learning landscape will certainly present us all with many challenges. However, I am confident that our school spirit of 'Many ways to excellence' will preserve in ensuring each and every child finds success with their learning.

As you are well aware, the Queensland Government has decided that, in order to reinforce social distancing across the community and to slow the spread of COVID-19, state school students will move to a home-based learning model from 20 April 2020 until at least 22 May 2020.

During this period, all students who are able to be supervised and learn from home are to stay home, except for vulnerable students and children of essential workers who are not working from home. A decision regarding the second half of Term 2 will be made by the government and the Department of Education mid-May, and I will continue to provide you with regular updates.

Thank you in advance to all of our families for following our Departments guidelines to ensure that ONLY students that meet these guidelines are attending school for onsite supervision. These times require all of us to act in our shared best interest and I thank you for that.

Attached to this email is the schools Continuity of Learning Document for Term 2, Week 1-5 procedures. The document outlines information to support all students and families to be able to engage in learning throughout the next five weeks. I draw your immediate attention to the section (inserted below) pertaining to Attendance Procedures.

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PO Box 2, Sunnybank Q 4109

**P: (07) 3323 8111**

E: [Principal@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:Principal@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au)

**Education Queensland International** CRICOS Provider No. 00608A

## Student Attendance – Home-based learning or onsite supervision

The Department of Education has issued a directive that ALL students, regardless of where they are engaged in learning, must be accounted for by 11am each school day. Our school process is outlined below:

1. On the first day of Term 2 (Monday 20 April), students will receive an email from their roll class teacher via their EQ email address.
2. Every school day at 8:45am, all students working from home must email their roll class teacher, copy in their parent or caregiver, to notify them that they are learning from home on that day. Please put in the subject line: your full name, roll class, and that you are working from home.
3. If a student is unwell or unable to attend their learning for any other reason on a school day, the parent or caregiver must notify the school via text to 0416 905 308 or email [COVIDattendance@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:COVIDattendance@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au) or phone the absence line 3323 8160 by 9am each morning with the students name, year level and reason for absence before 9am on the day of the absence.
4. Home-based learning – Hard copy students (students without any technology access – email access) - Parents are required to contact the school via text to 0416 905 308 or email [COVIDattendance@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:COVIDattendance@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au) or phone 3323 8160 by 9am each morning with the students name, year level and either 'learning from home' or other absence reason.
5. If the roll class teacher does not hear from their students to say where they are learning from and a parent has not contacted the school via the above attendance/absence notification options, a text message will be sent home asking you to account for your child's absence. Until you make contact with the School, your child's attendance will be recorded as an 'Unexplained' absence and will be referred to the Year Level Co-ordinator. If absences continue to be unexplained then the student will be referred to the Year Level Deputy Principal.
6. Students whose attendance has not been accounted for will be followed up with by the school as per normal processes and may escalate to possible Police and/or Child Safety involvement.

I think the overarching message for this period of term is to be kind and remember that everyone is in this together! Remember, we are treating the first week as a 'starting school' or orientation type of week. Not everything will go to plan and it might take a while to work out how to find and use the right resources and understand what's best for you and your child. The 'how to' will come first, and then the learning. We will be doing everything that we can to support both you and your child/ren. The wellbeing of students is our schools and the Department's first and foremost priority. The most important thing you can do is to continue to provide, comfort, support and encouragement to your child.

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I would also like to acknowledge the amazing work that has already be undertaken by our teaching staff, teacher aides, support staff and admin staff, as we have prepared for this new way of learning. Our team has embraced this different approach to schooling with eagerness, positivity and dedication. Whilst the staff already cannot imagine the school without your children's smiling faces (and already miss), they have been working extremely hard over their holidays to ensure that your child/ren are provided with a smooth start to the new look term 2. I am extremely grateful to my Sunnybank team for their hard work and commitment to our student's success and wellbeing.

Sunnybank is a place of belonging and this term will be no different. We will stay connected through new medians and work together as we always do with Respect, Responsibility and Readiness.

Stay safe, stay well and stay connected during this time.

Kind Regards  
Leah Fountaine  
Principal

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