



PINJARRA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

This FACT SHEET is intended to provide information about school programs and resources for Parents, Caregivers and Students in light of recent changes to education that have been announced by the Premier of Western Australia, the Honourable Mr Mark McGowan on Thursday 26th March 2020.

The information will be updated and expanded regularly as developments occur.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS ARE UP TO DATE – ESPECIALLY EMAIL ADDRESSES AS THIS WILL BE A KEY PLATFORM FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

- Parents and caregivers have been requested to keep students home from 26th March 2020. The school is open to those students who are unable to be supervised at home due to parents being engaged in essential work or other special circumstances. Senior school students who are able to stay home unsupervised are requested to do so, in line with the recommendations of the State Government and WA Health Department.
- Breakfast Club will not be available as of 26th March 2020. Students who continue to attend school during week 9 will need to make alternative arrangements.
- The School Canteen will not be open as of 26th March 2020. Students who continue to attend school during week 9 will need to make alternative arrangements.
- Students attending will need to bring a drink bottle to school, which can be filled with water from the drink fountains. Students will not be allowed to drink directly from fountains to support personal hygiene measures in place.
- Homework Club will not be available for students to attend after school as of 26th March 2020. They will be able to access existing resources for courses via their CONNECT classes.
- AIME Tutors are not attending the school site to deliver programs on Wednesday afternoons from now on, but have put in place a Youtube channel for students to access to support cultural learning. The link for this is channel will be placed on our website when available.
- Support for Parents and Carers is available on the DoE website via this link: [Support for parents and carers](#)
- Parents are advised that, if they need urgent mental health advice and support for themselves or their child, there is a 24 hour crisis support line 1800 048 636
- The [Learning at home](#) website provides advice and resources for parents and carers, educators and students. This includes a wide range of resources and information related to the impact of COVID-19 on students' health and wellbeing and the impact on families.

- There is a Health Department information page including FAQs that Parents and Caregivers can access via this link: https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus

AS WE MOVE FORWARD

- We are likely to move into a 'distance education model' during term two that will predominantly rely on students engaging in online learning. This will be the preferred model for ongoing access to course materials and assessments.
- While several different learning platforms and tools will be used over time, the main access initially is expected to be through CONNECT. All PSHS students have access to CONNECT classes for each of their subjects and most are familiar with how to use it. Tutorials will be available through CONNECT to assist students to become familiar and confident with this platform.
- CONNECT is accessible through any device, including desktop computers, laptop computers, tablets and 'smart' phones.
- Where students do not have access to a suitable device for online learning, the school will endeavour to make resources available to assist through equipment loans. However, it is anticipated that availability will be limited.
- If a student is not able to access the online delivery model for any reason, printed work packs will be produced for each subject to support their learning. **These will not be available for students until the commencement of term two.**
- From the start of term two, work packs will need to be collected and returned via the school Administration Office. Parents/Caregivers/Students attending the site to collect and deliver work packs will be required to observe social distancing and hygiene protocols as stipulated at that time. Administration staff will be happy to provide advice as to these requirements.
- As work packs may include printed textbooks that require to be 'checked out' of our Library as a loan, it is advisable to bring student's Smart Rider cards to the office when collecting materials, as these are also our school Library borrowing cards.
- Communication between school staff and Parents/Caregivers will be predominantly via our Compass system and will be delivered as email. We recommend daily checks for information to ensure effective links are maintained. Parents are able to email the school with general enquires via the email address provided on our webpage: pinjarra.shs@education.wa.edu.au
- For parents not able to access email, the most direct contact with school will be via phone – 9531 7000.
- A new landing page is being constructed for our website that will function as an information hub for students. They will be able to access links to all relevant online learning platforms and tools in one spot. We anticipate that this will be live by the commencement of term two.
- In time, it is anticipated that we will develop 'virtual timetables' for students to assist parents to schedule, support and monitor student engagement with school activities. This will occur once a clear direction from government has been provided for term two and beyond.

PROGRAM AND COURSE INFORMATION

Senior School

- Senior school courses (Years 11 and 12) will be carefully managed in consultation with SCSA. We will follow their advice and guidelines in making adjustments to courses if required as we move into the distance education model anticipated to commence in term two.
- It is vital that all senior school students continue to be diligent and engaged in course work while working remotely. Currently we expect that WACE schedule timelines will be maintained so they cannot afford to fall behind.
- Teachers will be available to students via CONNECT every day. This platform facilitates two-way communication in the 'discussion' section, so students can access support in real time.
- A Study Skills and Pastoral Care class will be added to CONNECT for all senior school students to support the development of independent work habits and general student health and well-being.
- Workplace Learning can continue for students if workplaces are open and willing to continue their participation in the program. This would be a choice for students and parents to make and is not mandated by the school. If work placements become unavailable, students should ensure that Log Books are up to date. The negotiation of required work place hours to complete course units will be managed when students return to 'normal' schooling later in the year.
- VET students who participate in Certificate courses either at school or via TAFE will either have programs put on hold or will proceed with theory based UOCs online. Students attending externally provided training (TAFE) should contact their instructors/Program Coordinators for further information. Otherwise, students may contact the Pinjarra Senior High School VET Coordinator – Mrs Boardman – for clarification if required.
- Students currently enrolled in Year 11 and 12 courses through SIDE (School of Isolated and Distance Education) will continue to access these as usual. The school has provided the extra equipment for students to access from home. Questions about SIDE should be directed to Mrs Gray, who will continue to coordinate programs for these students.

Years 7 – 10

- All students will have access to online learning and/or printed work packages for English, Mathematics, Science, HASS and Health and PE initially, **from the commencement of term two**. As we move forward and broaden the suite of materials available, work in their Literacy/Numeracy, Pastoral Care and elective courses will become increasingly available.
- Where subjects include practical components, it is anticipated that course sequencing will be adjusted as much as possible such that these are scheduled for when students return to school. This will hopefully mean that these important skills are not left out of learning.
- The online and printed work packages will focus on theoretical course components, but where possible will include links to/instructions for activities that can be self-directed and parent supervised. Examples may include a fitness program, instructions for craft activities, cooking activities etc.

- Students who are funded to receive additional support will continue to do so directly via communication through the CONNECT platform and through Education Assistants working with teachers to develop work plans and products, assessments, activities etc. For ASDAN students, EAs and teachers will make phone contact to check on progress with set work.

Further updates will be provided to Parents, Caregivers and Students as we move forward and information becomes available. Please support your children to maintain their engagement with their learning and school community as best they can. These are unprecedented circumstances and we appreciate the inherent difficulty for everyone in making it work – but we must try for the sake of our children.

Your efforts and support are greatly appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Stone', written in a cursive style.

Jan Stone

Principal