

# WAGIN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

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4 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this email finds all well given the unusual circumstances for the start of Term 2. The vast majority of students have settled nicely into one of the modes of learning on offer at Wagin DHS, face-to-face, learning at home work packages and Connect online. Thank you to those who advised us of your child's attendance position. Your response allowed us to be well-prepared for day one of the Term. Attendance last week was slightly lower than that of today which stands at 58%.

Given the reduced numbers at school last week we were able to provide some flexibility in timetabling which has allowed staff time to contact most of those learning at home. If your child has not yet had contact, a staff member will phone early this week. Please ensure we have your up-to-date details.

To support the health & wellbeing of our students and staff, the following are some of the changes we have implemented:

- **Social distancing:** Although social distancing is no longer required between students, with smaller student numbers in some classes, staff have been able to allow students to work in a wider personal space.
- **Minimising physical contact:** Students are regularly reminded not to physically touch each other during recess and lunch play or during Physical Education.
- **Physical Education** lessons will involve non-contact sports this term.
- The **cleaning** regime has been increased for classrooms, play equipment, sports equipment and toilet facilities (refer to Health & Hygiene measures below).
- **Parent on-campus access restricted:** For the next few weeks no parents are allowed beyond the school gates. For those returning next week please note the changes below.
- **After school access:** For the remainder of this term there will be no access to play equipment or Basketball courts after school.
- **Bus students:** Due to the Front Office being closed whilst the upgrade takes place, bus students are walking via the library.

## Pick up and drop off of children

As mentioned in the previous letter, the State Government and Education Department of WA have advised schools that over the next few weeks, parents are **not** to enter the school campus. Parents are asked to drop off and collect their child/children at the school gates. We would like to commend the parents of students who have attended for supporting the staff with the new changes.

To minimise parental contact could you please adhere to the following:

- **Kindy / Pre-primary / Year 1:** drop off and collection will be at the '**Welcome**' gate closest to the oval. EA's will be waiting to escort students to and from their classes. Staff will not release students at the end of the day without sighting the parent first.
- For all other age groups parents are asked to please say goodbye to and collect their children at the **gate closest to their classroom**. Please do not come on the school grounds. Staff will be on duty to support those students who are anxious about returning.
- **Late sign in / sign out / new enrolments:** Due to the Administration upgrade this term, the **Front Office entrance will now be through the Brenda O'Neill Courtyard**. Please only come on school grounds if absolutely necessary and follow signage.

### Communication with Teachers

As parents will not have the usual face to face contact with parents at the beginning and end of the day, we request that you email the teacher directly, contact through Connect or phone the school and we will have the teacher contact you back as soon as possible.

### Health and Safety Measures

- **Drink bottles:** Please ensure your child brings a drink bottle to school. We will encourage students to fill bottles from the water fountains, not drink from them.
- Cleaners will work throughout the day to ensure all high-use areas, such as benchtops, desks, doorknobs, taps and hand rails, are regularly cleaned and surfaces disinfected.
- Students will still be encouraged to wash their hands regularly throughout the day.
- Our playgrounds will be open during the school day (only) and play equipment will be cleaned before school and after each break.
- All assemblies, excursions, camps, incursions and sporting competitions will remain on hold.
- **Visitors/Guests** will not be allowed on campus without prior approval of the Principal or Deputy Principal.
- Please note the **Canteen** will be open as of Week 3 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Information regarding any changes to service expectations and the menu will be found on the P & C Facebook page.
- **Breakfast Club** will look to resume this week (As we cannot have helpers on the school grounds at the moment Mrs Pilkington will speak to each of the classes about provision changes that may be put in place).

### Attendance notification

Just a reminder that the school is required by law to maintain an accurate school attendance. As would occur normally attendance is done Period 1. For those students who are not on campus we will assume that your child is learning from home.

It is important that we capture those students who are unable to complete school work whether it be at school or at home. If your child is **unwell** please contact the school either via phone or email to advise us of the reason your child cannot complete the work. We appreciate it if this could be done by 9.30am.

### Term 2 Illnesses

During the course of Term 2 as the regular winter cold and flu season approaches, it is very important that:

- If your child **presents as unwell whilst at school**, parents will be notified and asked to collect their child.
- If your **child is unwell please keep them at home** and ensure they are healthy before returning to school.
- Please immediately notify the school if your child/ren or a family member living in the same house is being tested for COVID-19. This is to ensure the safety of all staff and students.

### Winter Uniforms

Wagin DHS encourages all students to show pride in their school by wearing their school uniform.

With the recent taste of winter chill in the air it is a timely reminder to ensure your child has adequate warmer **school clothing**. The school uniform order form can be found on the [school website](#). Please download and return (with proof of payment) either via email ([wdhspnc@gmail.com](mailto:wdhspnc@gmail.com)) or place in the P & C Uniform Collection bin now found in the Brenda O'Neill Courtyard. The P & C will collate the items and give them to your child.

### Learning from Home Photos Wanted

With our first newsletter coming out this Wednesday, 6 May, it would be terrific to see photos of students Learning at Home either via their work packages or Online. Some of the photos will be selected to go on our website and/or Facebook page. Please email by **Tuesday, 5 May 3.00pm** to [Wagin.DHS@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Wagin.DHS@education.wa.edu.au)

It has been wonderful to see so many students back at school this week and we are very much looking forward to the time when we are all back on campus. Staff have worked hard to ensure all students' academic progress, and health and wellbeing has been catered for. We would like to acknowledge the positive feedback parents have given us in regards to the necessary changes we have had to make. We will continue to closely monitor and update you with any changes to the State Government and Education Department of WA's position in relation to COVID-19 and schooling.

Kind regards and thank you for your ongoing support.



Tracy Pickering  
Principal  
Wagin DHS