



PEREGIAN SPRINGS STATE SCHOOL

Frequently Asked Questions No. 1

Q Who are essential workers?

A Essential workers are people who have a job earning an income. If you need to go to work during the day and have no other family support to assist with your children learning at home, you are considered an essential worker. The term 'essential worker' does not include those who are studying or searching for employment.

Q I work part time. Can I send my child on those days and do learning at home on the other days?

A Yes. If you are working on any weekday (i.e. Monday to Friday) you are considered an essential worker, i.e. you have a job. The more children that can stay home, even on some days, the safer everyone will be.

Q Can I hire a device from the school?

A At this stage, no. We don't know how many children will be at school needing to use the school devices. When this is clear, we may have a limited number for hire. These will be allocated on an application based process. This is still to be worked out and will take some time.

Q What happens if our family doesn't have access to any device?

A Teachers have prepared paper-based activities similar to those that children will work on online. These will be photocopied and available to be picked up from the school. Social distancing will be required and parents will be notified about how this will occur. This may not happen on Monday 20 April due to everything else that needs to be prepared and set up. If you want your child to start learning from home on Monday 20 April then we suggest some reading, writing and number facts practice.

Q Do children have to have their own device? Does it have to be an iPad?

A We realise that children may need to share a device with siblings or a working parent, so no, they don't have to have their own. The program developed by teachers will be able to be downloaded and viewed on any internet enabled device – a PC, MacBook Pro, any laptop, a desktop, iPad, android tablet, even a phone.

Q Will everything have to be completed online?

A No. Many activities will be able to be downloaded and completed separately from the Internet. Communication about the students' findings in the investigations (e.g. photos, writing, worksheets, etc) will need to be sent to the teachers online.

Q Can parents and caregivers collect their children's stationery from school or do they have to buy stationery to be used at home?

A Yes, you can collect your child's stationery from their supply from the start of the year. Social distancing rule will apply. Please email your child's teacher with the items you require, and they will package them up and leave them centrally for you to collect

Q Can parents and caregivers still come to the school?

A Yes, you can come to the school to pick up children or drop them off. Otherwise we request

- No gathering in the central covered walkway or anywhere else in the school
- Maintain 1.5m to 2m from all school staff (everyone, actually) at all times
- All payments are to be made online and not at the office. We do not want office staff handling cash if at all possible

Q Can parents dial in so children at home can see what is going on in the classroom and see their friends at school?

A Not at this stage. We don't yet have access to reliable and easy to use video conferencing software to make this happen, but we are certainly working hard on it. Online platforms such as

Skype, Zoom, Webex etc are not allowed to be used on our network. Even though teachers have access to these, we cannot request students use them when they wouldn't be able to at school.

Q If I send my children to school will they be taught by their own teachers in their own classrooms?

A We don't know at this stage as we don't know how many children will come to school. However, teachers are unable to teach children at home and teach another group at school at the same time. It is likely children will be grouped into year level groups and taken by one of the teachers while others work with those at home.

Teachers have worked together in teams to plan their online learning so they all know what each other is doing and can cater for children across classes.

We understand that the relationship between a child and their teacher in primary school is precious. In these uncertain times, children may need to get used to relating to lots of teachers.

Q How will I know what to do?

A On Monday 20 April you will receive an email from your child's teacher with information about their online plan. We are also preparing a comprehensive guide to accessing the learning opportunities, time requirements, passwords and usernames, how to get help, what to do if something doesn't work and what the curriculum consists of. You will also receive this at the earliest opportunity.

Communication with the school and your child's teacher if learning at home

Please remember your child's teacher will be teaching children at school as well as online and will not be able to be at everyone's 'beck and call'. Teachers will schedule times for each of their learning, teaching and communication episodes and will communicate with you about this.

Emailing your child's teacher

As with normal school procedure, if you email your child's teacher (or the office) you will receive a response within 48 hours (Monday to Friday). Teachers will not be responding to communication on the weekends.

If your child emails their teacher, they will receive a response within 24 hours (Monday to Friday). Teachers will not be responding to communication on the weekends.

Alternatively, for a faster response parents and children can use the 'Request for Teacher Help' on the Student Springers Learning Hub – look on the left-hand side bar and scroll down to below the classes and specialist areas. Between 8.45am and 3.00pm

Send your questions to admin@peregianspringsss.eq.edu.au They most likely will not be responded to individually but used to create information sheets such as this one.