

Inglewood Primary School

2022 Distance Learning Parent Guide



Caring and Sharing



At Inglewood Primary School we recognise the challenges posed by the uncertainty of living through a pandemic and understand the impact this can have on our families. As we prepare for the prospect of COVID-related disruption, we acknowledge that the potential shift to distance learning will look and feel different for everyone and we are working hard to make this process as simple and successful as we can. We trust the following information will support all families during this time.

What is Distance Learning?

Distance Learning describes the learning that is undertaken at home where attending classes face-to-face is not possible due to a COVID-related school closure. In the event that your child is unable to attend school, teachers are ready with online learning packages that families can access to support their child's learning at home.

We believe first and foremost the health and well-being of our families is the priority. Parents can be flexible and modify the learning to meet the needs of their family. In the distance learning environment, we plan to deliver education through online, face-to-face and paper methods with teachers deciding to do and use what they know is best for their students in the learning program.

Distance learning plans will be available for families to access through our two learning communication platforms - Seesaw for K-3 and Showbie for years 4-6; these platforms are preferred over the provision of hard-copy work packages. The plans provide sufficient work and activities that are a combination of revision and consolidation. Parents are not expected to take the place of teachers; however, there are now further opportunities for parents to become critical and active partners in their child's learning. To achieve this our teachers will be in regular contact with families.

Developing a manageable distance learning program

The distance learning plans will:

- Contain a combination of learning that requires internet/online connectivity and learning that can be completed without technology;
- Contain a combination of revision of previous learning and consolidation of curriculum content;
- Predominantly have a focus on English and Mathematics;
- Complete activities that can be submitted to the teacher for feedback;
- Integrate learning and provide opportunities that are fun and engaging;
- Outline what can be done during the day, but with flexibility to accommodate individual family circumstances;
- Be posted by the class teacher on Seesaw or Showbie.

Parents will make the best decisions around their individual circumstances for that day. Older students should have a level of autonomy on their learning whilst younger students will require more support and guidance. Our underlying philosophy, however, is to keep things simple for all families. We also understand that it may not be possible to facilitate regular learning with a primary-aged child and work from home at the same time; therefore, we understand every family will undertake this process flexibly according to their family's schedule and priorities.

Staying connected to our community

Our priority is staying connected with our families and most importantly, our students. We know many of our students would like to hear from their teacher, and parents will likely have questions along the way. Our platforms will be **Seesaw** and **Showbie** for communicating with students on teaching and learning. Students may also use Connect to contact their teachers if they have queries or require clarification of their learning tasks. Parents can also contact their child's classroom teacher through Connect and email.

Making distance learning successful

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While teaching and learning during a pandemic are important, mental health and safety is the most important.

To support a sense of routine, the following general tips for parents will provide children with structure and ownership of their learning:

- Parents model a secure and positive learning environment;
- Establish a learning zone that is organised and prepared for each day's lessons;
- Be encouraging and supportive to develop independent learning skills;
- Schedule regular breaks and play opportunities;
- Be positive and enthusiastic, taking an interest in your child's lessons and attempts at the activities provided;
- Discuss the work with your child answering any questions they have;
- Check your child's work but **leave any incorrect work** - this will assist the teacher in identifying where additional support might be required;
- If you have more than one child, the elder sibling can take on the role as a peer support;
- Discuss teacher feedback with your child;
- Be flexible and adaptable during the day as illness, tiredness and other interruptions will likely occur;
- Develop a timetable of the day to suit your needs and situation;
- Look for alternative learning that involves cooking, playing, outdoor activities and jobs around the house.

Share with us - celebrate learning!

We would love to see children's learning from home. We would love to share this with our school community so we can all stay connected.

Take pictures or share a video with us of the following.

- The learning zone set up at home;
- Children working on their tasks;
- Families working together;
- Art and craft activities;
- Physical activity, exercise and games;
- Cooking and gardening.

The aim is to celebrate learning and motivate your child to engage in learning from home. Taking pictures and videos is a great way to document the experience that will be a historical time in all of our lives.

Don't forget about play!

Children are naturally curious about the world around them. They experience and come to understand the world and their place in it through play. Creating opportunities for children to explore, experiment, question and discover new concepts about the world in playful ways is central to their learning, development and wellbeing. Play can happen both inside and outdoors. You don't need expensive toys or equipment. Learning through play can build on everyday activities in the home and make use of common household items. Cardboard rolls, boxes, plastic cups, buckets, wooden spoons, food packaging, old clothes and pots and pans are just some of the items you could use.

Resources to support online learning

[Learning resources from across the nation - Department of Education 2022 digital learning packs \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Distance Learning Collaboration

The following *Distance Learning Matrix* provides a guide on how we can implement a team approach to home learning. Our expectation is that ALL children feel safe and supported at this time.

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Students	Parents	Staff
Provide feedback regularly to your teachers on how you are feeling.	Communicate with teachers through Connect or email.	Provide regular communication regarding learning through Seesaw or Showbie.
Ask for help.	Ask for help.	Have weekly check-ins with all families.
Let your teacher know if you need any materials for home.	Ask for print materials if you do not have access to technology.	Have print materials available for families without access to technology.
Develop your own individual routine for the day.	Be flexible but help establish a daily routine with your child.	Ensure learning needs are met and easily accessible by ALL students.
Regularly check for communication from your teacher.	Ensure students take regular breaks and have some fun too.	Upload learning tasks and materials on Seesaw or Showbie
Keep your workspace neat and tidy. Pack away your materials at the end of the day.	Encourage meaningful play and physical activity. Learn from playing, building, making, creating and exercising.	Keep learning interesting, fun and integrated. Allow for play based learning tasks
Complete any required tasks by the deadlines set by your teacher and send back for feedback.	Help your child send back work required for teacher assessment and feedback.	Provide feedback to students on the selected learning tasks you have set.
Write to yourself about what you are doing, your thoughts and feelings each day in a journal.	Sit down have a coffee, ring a friend and chat!	Check in with a colleague, take a break, sit down and have a coffee!
Reach out to your classmates if you are feeling down	Don't think you have to be the teacher; be a parent and support.	Contact and communication can make your students' day.
Practise safe digital citizenship. Be safe and sensible online.	Create a family online contract for using technology. Set boundaries around screen time.	Establish communication during school hours (8.50 – 3.00).
Stay calm. If you are unsure about anything, just ask!	Set good practices around online screen time.	Year level learning will be consistent and appropriate for home completion.

Student and family wellbeing

We are here to continue to offer support to students and families. Please make contact and reach out to us when you need support by email on inglewood.ps@education.wa.edu.au

During these difficult times, maintaining a positive wellbeing may be a challenge. It is important that you know how to cope with stress by using positive self-talk, exercise, healthy eating, connection with friends and finding things that bring you joy.

Available resources to support wellbeing

World Health Organization

The World Health Organization have strategies to cope with stress during the COVID-19 outbreak.

[Helping children cope](#)

Beyond Blue 1300 224 636

Is available for children learn to self-manage their emotions, becoming more confident, capable and in control. Positive mental health and wellbeing is very important during COVID-19.

Student Wellbeing Hub

Information and resources for students to keep healthy, happy and get the most out of school can be found [here](#).

Reach out

A list of self care activities that you can do from home can be found [here](#). They may help you feel a little better and give you a sense of control during a very uncertain time.

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Provide emotional support to children and young.

School contact details

Phone: 9223 9900

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