



**Hon Sue Ellery MLC
Minister for Education and Training
Leader of the Legislative Council**

Our Ref: 61-21710

Dear parents and carers

The State Government has made some changes to how your child will learn while all Western Australians work toward minimising the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

On 26 March 2020, the Premier announced all public schools in Western Australia will stay open until Thursday, 9 April 2020, the end of Term 1.

However, we strongly encourage you to keep your children at home if you have access to online resources and are able to do so. Teaching for Term 1 will conclude on 3 April 2020. The Department of Education's new *Learning at home* website, located at www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home, provides resources, activities and information to help children and young people continue to learn while at home.

Parents and carers who need their children to attend school to enable them to maintain employment, and those children in vulnerable families, such as children living with grandparents, can continue to attend school.

From 6 to 9 April 2020, arrangements will be in place to allow students to continue to attend school and be supervised. No student will be turned away from school if they attend during this time.

These changes in the week of 6 April will provide the opportunity for teachers and other school staff to prepare for a different way of teaching and learning in Term 2.

I want to assure you that every school-aged child at a public school will continue to receive an education in Western Australia; however, it will look different. Work is well underway on developing a longer-term education model for Term 2 and beyond, in response to COVID-19.

Thank you for your understanding and support for school staff as we navigate our way together through this time.

Yours sincerely

**SUE ELLERY MLC
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING**