

Thursday 16 April 2020



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Dear Broadbeach State School Community,

With the current situation facing society, we are committed to supporting our students, families and staff at this most uncertain and unprecedented time.

The last week of Term 1 was gazetted by the State Government as Student Free Days to assist teachers to prepare alternate learning pathways. Our school remained open to provide supervision for students whose parents were required to attend essential occupations and for vulnerable students. At the same time, we offered some home learning options through assigned tasks within our online platforms of Literacy Planet, Maths Online, Sunshine Online and Mathletics. This provided time for our teachers and administration staff to develop lessons and activities that could be accessed online in the event of a longer, more extreme closure.

Term 2 Arrangements:

To provide an online learning platform, we have developed year level 'Virtual Classrooms'. These 'classrooms' are securely managed through the Education Queensland network, providing a central portal where students can access content, assessment and communication boards to guide their learning. These 'Virtual Classrooms' are hosted in what is referred to as 'The Learning Place' which can be accessed via a laptop, personal computer, tablet or smartphone. An additional Virtual Classroom has been developed as a supplement for students with a disability.

Please note learning content will be accessible via the Virtual Classrooms between 8:45 am Monday until 3:00pm Friday

What do I need to access the Virtual Classrooms?

1. Students require their **MIS DETAILS** - login (username) and password to access the network computers at school and Education Queensland sites at home
2. MIS DETAILS - username and password were sent to your nominated SMS on Friday 3 April
3. Before logging into the Virtual Classroom, it is recommended you download and install [Office 365](#) which is available free to Broadbeach State School students (your child's MIS DETAILS - username and password will be required to download the software)
4. If you require assistance with your child's MIS DETAILS or downloading Office 365 please email ITSupport@broadbeachss.eq.edu.au - you will be contacted and provided assistance
5. The preferred platform (device) for online learning is a Microsoft Windows device however, Android and Apple iOS devices can be used
6. To assist access the Virtual Classrooms, short video tutorials (YouTube) and help sheets (PDF) are available on the school website under the [Term 2 Learning @ Broadie](#) news story



What do I need to know to navigate the Virtual Classrooms?

1. Although the online approach cannot replace the daily explicit and systematic approach of our face-to-face teaching, we have endeavoured to replicate approaches such as our Warmup, Teach and Consolidate (WTC) which students are accustomed to on a daily basis
2. Our older students should have the skills to navigate the lessons with less supervision, however, for our younger students, parent involvement will be vital in making this approach as successful as possible
3. Teachers will be monitoring their virtual classroom while planning, managing and uploading future content
4. Teachers are a valuable resource, so make sure you are reaching out for support where needed, but please be mindful that teachers will be supporting a number of enquiries and will reply as soon as possible. Where questions of a similar nature are raised, teachers will address these via the discussion board
5. If students are experiencing difficulty, there are dedicated **discussion board** times where students can communicate with their teachers and receive some guidance and/or feedback
6. Please note, these discussion boards are for educational purposes only – established communication channels should be used for questions of a more individual nature
7. To assist in navigating the Virtual Classroom environment, short video tutorials (YouTube) are available on the [Term 2 Learning @ Broadbeach](#) news story for the following:
 - **Navigating the virtual classroom** – PC or laptop
 - **Navigating the virtual classroom** – iPad, iPhone, Android Tablet/Phone

What Support is available for Parents?

1. We do not expect parents/carers to adopt the full classroom teacher role, however, you are an important factor in motivating our students to maintain their engagement in academic learning
2. Students and families working from home are encouraged to adopt a learning schedule and dedicated learning space along with clearly articulated routines to support healthy learning habits
3. Each family is encouraged to adopt their own daily routines. Given work demands, availability for supervision and access to devices, we do not expect families and students to attend to school work strictly between 8:45am – 3:00pm each day
4. Students will be provided with a timetable and overview to support their daily learning. These will be useful in assisting students in planning and tracking learning
5. To assist with home schooling, a help sheet (PDF) is available on the [Term 2 Learning @ Broadbeach](#) news story:
 - **Supporting your child in their transition to learning at home**

At this uncertain time, you can be assured of our support for you as families and your children as learners. We are committed to supporting you every step of the way.

Regards,



Mr Bruce Langes
Principal



Matt O'Brien, Jodie Kurt, Di Joske and Tanya McGaughey
The Teaching and Learning Team