



*Learners today Leaders tomorrow*

# NEWSLETTER

PO Box 66 NORTH BENDIGO 3550

SCHOOL : [www.lightningreefps.vic.edu.au](http://www.lightningreefps.vic.edu.au)

Phone: 5443 2501

ELC : [www.bendigoregionalymca.org.au](http://www.bendigoregionalymca.org.au)

Phone: 5444 6666

## COVID19 RESTRICTIONS EASED

Based on advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, some significant changes have been made to how cases of COVID-19 and contacts of cases are managed in schools as we reach the 90% double dose milestone for eligible people in the coming days.

Schools will continue the process of identifying contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19 at schools; contacts will no longer be contacted by the Department of Health with quarantine requirements. If your child is identified as a contact the school will contact you directly.

Contacts will be required to complete a standard (PCR) test within 24 hours from when they are identified by the school as a contact.

If the PCR test returns a negative result, the student can immediately return to school, with evidence of the negative result provided to the school.

It is strongly recommended that contacts complete five days of rapid antigen tests in the morning before they attend school.

You will be able to obtain these testing kits from testing centres from Monday 22 November if your child is required to complete a standard PCR test.

Where students are currently in quarantine due to an existing school exposure, they will be able to provide evidence of a negative standard PCR test and return to school following the instructions above.

In exceptional circumstances the Department of Health may determine that contacts in significant school outbreaks are still required to quarantine for seven days. In this scenario, students will be notified directly of any additional quarantine arrangements.

Face masks will now only be required by staff, visitors and Grades 3 to 6 students in an indoor space within our school.

The wearing of masks remains recommended elsewhere where physically distancing cannot be maintained.

As we head into the final few weeks of the school year, please continue to care for yourself and those around you.





## **Vaccination requirements for visitors and volunteers performing work in schools**

Visitors and volunteers performing work on school sites must have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021 or have a valid medical exception.

## **Vaccination requirements for parents and carers attending schools**

All parents and carers attending schools, including for drop off and pick up must also adhere to physical distancing, density limits, face mask requirements and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.

Parents and carers who enter school buildings must check in using the QR code.

BE YOUR BEST 	BE RESPECTFUL 	BE CO-OPERATIVE 	BE RESPONSIBLE 
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Parents and carers who enter school buildings must also have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and **must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021** or have a valid medical exemption with the following limited exceptions:

- \* when attending to administer medical treatment to their own child when the treatment cannot be administered by the school
- \* when attending to collect their child who is unwell and cannot leave the school building unaccompanied by their parent/carer.
- \* when attending for a momentary period that does not involve any sustained contact with staff or students, for example, to collect a completed art project or similar.

Parents and carers attending any event or activity inside a school building including, but not limited to tours, graduations, kindergarten transition, whole of school events are required to show evidence of vaccination.

Meetings and other discussions (such as Student Support Group meetings) with parents and carers who do not meet vaccination requirements should be held virtually.

Parents and carers attending school sites for drop off and pick up who do not enter school buildings do not need to comply with vaccination requirements.

### **Which medical practitioners are able to provide the exemption certificate?**

A medical practitioner, for the purpose of the vaccination directions, is limited to the following types of practitioners:

- a general practice registrar on an approved 3GA training placement
- a public health physician
- an infectious disease physician
- a clinical immunologist
- a general practitioner who is vocationally registered
- a general practitioner who is a fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)
- a general practitioner who is a fellow of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)
- a paediatrician
- a medical practitioner who is a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

This means that only medical practitioners from the list above can provide vaccination information including a letter showing evidence of vaccination or certification that a person is an excepted person under the prescribed criteria.

**Note: As at 12 November 2021, vaccination information relating to a medical exception must be evidenced by a COVID-19 medical exemption certificate issued by the Australian Immunisation Registry. (Medicare app)**

### **PREP (FOUNDATION) 2022 TRANSITION**

Our 2022 Prep Transition statements have been arriving from Kindergartens over the last week. It is lovely reading the Kinder reports and what the children are looking forward to as 'Big School' students!

We are holding two prep Transition sessions this year. The first is on the Student Free Day, Wednesday 1 December. The second is on the State wide Transition Day, Tuesday 7 December. Families involved will receive invitations via email and mail in upcoming days. Families with queries may contact Amy Davies at school or via email.

## YEAR 6-7 2022 TRANSITION & GRADUATION CEREMONY

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December, our Year 6 Graduation Ceremony will take place at the Bendigo Pottery. Students and teachers will share a meal and Yr 6 presentations. These are being professionally filmed this year and gifted to families as a keepsake.

The following day, Tuesday 7 December, the Yr 6's will attend their Secondary College for the whole day. We look forward to hearing their stories upon return to PS.

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

*Leading Image* were back at school today to photograph students who were absent on the previous Photo Day. We appreciate their flexibility in fitting a second visit to us in their very busy schedule. Families who have not yet paid for school photos will receive a reminder from *Leading Image* in the upcoming weeks to order and pay online.

## PARENT SURVEY

The past two years have been challenging for everyone, and we share the frustrations families feel with the continued lockdowns and restrictions we have had to endure for the last 18 months.

We have prioritised keeping lines of communication open with students and their families through Class Dojo, phone calls and Web Ex and support families through Remote learning and Onsite Supervision.

As part of our end of school year review process, we are seeking feedback from families about how supported and connected you felt during this trying period and what we can do differently to further improve this.

We have designed a short 5 question survey that we would appreciate you completing. It should take no more than 5 minutes, and is anonymous.

<https://forms.gle/QUtSw7BBQYPNnQhM6>

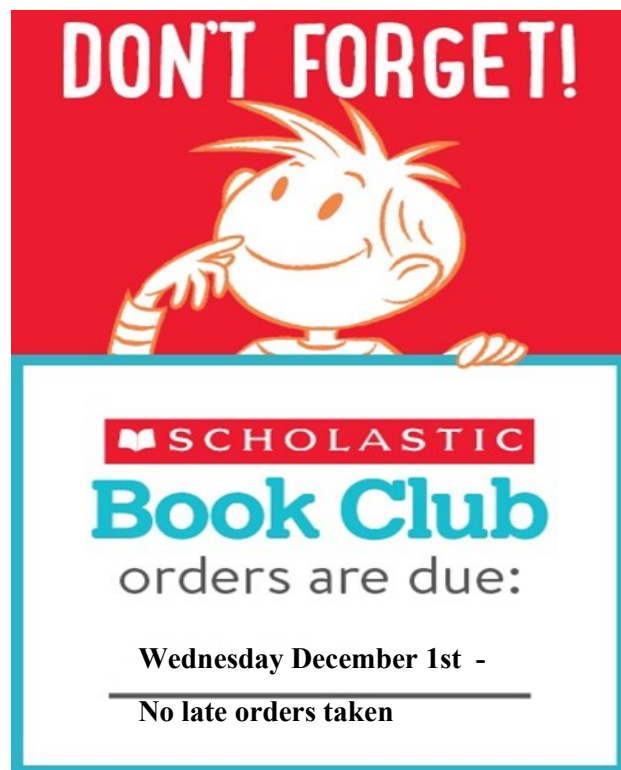
We thank you in advance,

Joanne Ryan

Acting Principal

Lightning Reef Primary School

Ph: 54432501



**Happy Birthday to Daniel M,  
Rohan D, Blake L and Jaydah M**  
We hope you have an amazing day.



### **CONTACT US:**

**5443 2501**

**Acting Principal:**

Jo Ryan

**Business Manager:**

Kristie Coates

**Leading Teacher:**

Paul Keller

**Learning Specialist:**

Katrina Johnstone

**Specialist Coordinator:**

Georgia King

**Social Worker:**

Gai Maddams

**School Council President**

Sonia Valli

**Parents and Friends President:**

Daria Turnbull

Please  
remember  
smoking is  
banned  
within four  
metres of an  
entrance to  
all Victorian  
Schools and  
within the  
school  
grounds, this  
includes our  
shared  
entrance and  
the bus stop



### **Calendar of events:**

**Wednesday December 1st–**

Student free day - NO SCHOOL

**Wednesday December 1st–**

Prep 2022 transition day

**Monday December 6th -** Grade

6 Graduation Bendigo Pottery

**Tuesday December 7th -** Prep

2022 transition day

Grade 6 Secondary College  
transition day

**Tuesday December 14th -**

Student led conferences

**Friday December 17th -** Last

day of Term 4

**BE YOUR BEST**



**BE RESPECTFUL**



**BE CO-OPERATIVE**



**BE RESPONSIBLE**



One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

## What you need to know

### 1. If a child is unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms, they must stay at home

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school/early childhood education and care (ECEC) as soon as possible.

### 2. If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

For further advice:

- call the 24-hour coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline 1800 675 398
- call a general practitioner
- use the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [online self-assessment tool](#).

Visit: [Where to get tested](#).

### 3. A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or been identified as a close contact they must isolate/quarantine until they receive clearance from DHHS.

**Children with persistent symptoms due to underlying conditions such as hay fever or asthma** whose symptoms are clearly typical of their condition can continue to attend ECEC/school. They should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms. They should consider getting a medical certificate from their GP to attend ECEC/school if they have persistent symptoms that may overlap with symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

**Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post viral symptoms** such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school/ECEC following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

For information on the minimum periods students and children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the [DHHS school exclusion table](#).

### 4. Children do NOT need a medical certificate before returning to school/ECEC

Once symptoms have cleared, there is no requirement from the Department of Education and Training or DHHS for children/students to have a medical certificate before they return to school/ECEC.

**Thank you for your support in following these steps, together we can all stay safe.**



This advice has been prepared by the Department of Education and Training, Safer Care Victoria and the Department of Health and Human Services

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lightning Reef Primary School will be using some online learning services to support learning and teaching. The attached information sheets provide you with information on two of the online services available to us, G Suite for Education and Office 365, and advice in relation to their safe and responsible use.

It will give you information in relation to:

- What the benefits of these services are for students
- What information students might store in these online spaces
- How you can help protect your child's information
- Examples of information students can safely put online
- Examples of information students should always be cautious of putting online.

When connected to the G Suite for Education or Office 365, students receive an @schools.vic.edu.au email address to use for educational purposes. This allows students access to a range of online educational services. This email address is not to be used outside school requirements, including signing up for gaming subscriptions/accounts, mailing lists and accounts with websites such as Pinterest or Social Media platforms.

When using G Suite for Education or Office 365, it is expected that students are responsible for their behavior, as outlined in our school's Acceptable Use Agreement. The main themes of this agreement are:

- Communicate respectfully
- Protect personal information
- Respect myself and others online.

Over the page, we have also provided you with some more specific information in regards to one of the online education services that is available – Minecraft: Education Edition. We are planning to use this as a tool to support learning and teaching in the classroom.

If upon considering the information on the attached sheet, you have questions or concerns, please contact us. We can provide you with some further information that may address your concerns.

If you **DO NOT** wish for your child to have access to G Suite for Education or Office 365, please contact the school so we can give you the necessary paperwork to fill out.

Kind regards,

Joanne Ryan

Acting Principal  
Lightning Reef Primary School  
03 5443 2501



### **What is Minecraft: Education Edition?**

Minecraft: Education Edition is a game-based learning platform that builds STEM skills, unleashes creativity and engages students in collaboration and problem-solving. This learning tool can be used to provide students with meaningful learning experiences across many subjects. It includes hundreds of pre-made Minecraft worlds. Students can build their own worlds. They can work alone or with classmates in a multiplayer experience.

### **What is different about Education Edition?**

- 1. Education-specific game features:** Tools like the camera, portfolio, and Book & Quill let players capture learning, write stories and export their observations for sharing with others.
- 2. Code Builder and the Agent:** The Minecraft Agent is your in-game coding companion. Using the built-in code editor, learners can write code to command the Agent do a range of activities in the game while learning coding fundamentals.
- 3. Chemistry:** The Chemistry resource pack in Minecraft: Education Edition allows learners to discover the building blocks of matter, combine elements into useful compounds and fun items, and conduct amazing virtual science experiments.
- 4. Lesson Plans:** The Minecraft: Education Edition website offers a library of hundreds of lesson plans in Language Arts, Computer Science, Math, Art & Design and History. Many of these lessons have supplementary Minecraft worlds, so students can apply their learning in-game.

### **How does it support learning? Minecraft: Education Edition:**

- Supports deep and meaningful student-led learning that builds confidence and keeps students engaged.
- Supports virtual learning experiences that directly link to and expand on the subjects being taught in the classroom, including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), history and language arts.
- Encourages collaboration, empathy and communication, helping students build critical social-emotional skills
- Promotes key 21st century skills that prepare students for the future workplace including creativity, problem solving and critical thinking.

## Office 365

### INFORMATION PACK FOR PARENTS

The Department of Education and Training (Department) and your school are using online learning services to support learning and teaching. This pack provides information on one of the online services, Office 365 and advice in relation to its safe and responsible use.



#### What information needs to be collected?

- Name, year level, home group and school.
- Student's Department username and password.



#### Why is this information needed?

- To control access to the online services.
- To prevent unauthorised access to student's work.



#### When could this information be accessed by others?

- By support staff to fix issues.
- Where required by law.
- Never for advertising or marketing purposes.

Office 365 is an internet based service provided by Microsoft for class activities. It provides students with access to online education services such as:

- Microsoft Web Apps (Excel, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, OneNote)
- Exchange
- OneDrive
- SharePoint
- Forms
- Stream
- Flow
- Skype for Business
- Microsoft Teams
- Sway
- PowerApps
- School Data Sync
- Minecraft: Education Edition

The online services offered by Microsoft may be updated from time to time, but are only made available to students once they have been reviewed and approved by the Department.

For more details on Office 365 visit:

<https://products.office.com/en-au/student/office-in-education>



#### What are the benefits of this service for students?

- Teaches students to be 'digital citizens' through the use of an online system.
- Provides access to digital tools for a range of classroom activities.
- Allows students to actively collaborate with their class on school work.
- Provides digital whiteboard capability in group discussions.
- Enables students to access their classwork from different channels (i.e. laptops, iPads and smartphones).
- Helps students to build working relationships with each other.
- Promotes knowledge sharing.

#### What information might students store in Office 365?

- In addition to the information needed to provide access to Office 365 (student's username, password, name, year level, home group and school), student's schoolwork will also be stored in Office 365.
- Students have the ability to store and share any school work related content on the platform, such as photographs, audio, video recordings. They can also add non-classroom related information.
- Student's data is stored in data centers located in Victoria and New South Wales.

Published May 2018

# G Suite For Education

## INFORMATION PACK FOR PARENTS

The Department of Education and Training (Department) and your school are using online learning services to support learning and teaching. This pack provides information on one of the online services, G Suite for Education and advice in relation to its safe and responsible use.



### What information needs to be collected?

- Name, year level, home group and school.
- Student's Department username and password.
- Location information and preferred language.



### Why is this information needed?

- To control access to the online services.
- To prevent unauthorised access to student's work.



### When could this information be accessed by others?

- By support staff to fix issues.
- Where required by law.
- Never for advertising or marketing purposes.

G Suite for Education is an internet based service provided by Google for classroom activities. It provides students with access to online education services such as:

- Classroom
- Gmail
- Drive
- Calendar
- Vault
- Docs
- Sheets
- Forms
- Slides
- Sites
- Meet

This online service is a collaboration tool which necessitates students being able to find and connect with other students and staff, either at their own school or within the Victorian government education system. As part of their school work, students may be able to communicate via email with people outside of their school.

The online services offered by Google may be updated from time to time, but are only made available to students once they have been reviewed and approved by the Department.

For more details on G Suite for Education visit:

<https://edu.google.com/vic-12-solutions/g-suite/>



### What are the benefits of this service for students?

- Teaches students to be 'digital citizens' through the use of an online system.
- Provides access to digital tools for a range of classroom activities.
- Allows students to actively collaborate with their class on school work.
- Provides digital whiteboard capability in group discussions.
- Enables students to access their classwork from different channels (i.e. laptops, iPads and smartphones).
- Helps students to build working relationships with each other.
- Promotes knowledge sharing.

### What information might students store in G Suite for Education?

- In addition to the information needed to provide access to G Suite for Education (student's username, password, name, year level, home group, school, location information and preferred language), student's schoolwork will also be stored in G Suite for Education.
- Students have the ability to store and share any school work related content on the platform, such as photographs, audio, video recordings. They can also add non-classroom related information.
- Student's data is stored in data centers located in the USA, Chile, Taiwan, Singapore, Ireland, Netherlands, Finland and Belgium.

Published May 2018

## How can you help protect your student's information?

Whilst your school provides your student's Department username and password to Google to enable them to only access their own information on G Suite for Education, there are some things that you can do to help keep their information safe.



Remind them not to share passwords with anyone, as they cannot be sure how secure another person will be with their details.

Teachers will remind students to only use G Suite for Education for activities related to schoolwork.



Talk about appropriate uses of technology at school and at home. Remind them that anything uploaded to G Suite for Education can be viewed by teachers.

In rare cases, Google's technical support team may have access to information stored in G Suite for Education.



Please note that Google will never contact you or your child directly. If you or your child are contacted by anyone claiming to be Google support, contact your school immediately.



### Example information students can safely put online

- Class presentation.
- Conversations about classwork/assignments.
- School related contact details.
- Class related media – i.e. videos, photos.
- Whiteboard notes.
- Emails between students on school work.



### Example information students should always be cautious of putting online

- Personal mobile or home phone number.
- Personal photographs and video clips unrelated to schoolwork.
- Other student's private information.
- Health information.
- Bank details.
- Home address.
- Information on racial or ethnic origin.
- Religious beliefs or other opinions.

With the return to school we have also have a return of headlice. It can be easily treated at home.

## **Headlice.**

### **How to manage and control head lice.**

Using conditioner with a fine-toothed comb is the recommended method of detection. It is also an excellent mechanical method of control and treatment.

- 1. Apply plain white conditioner liberally to dry hair. (Any cheap brand will be fine.)**
- 2. Cover the scalp to the ends of the hair.**
- 3. Detangle hair with regular comb.**
- 4. Leave conditioner in hair for 5 minutes. You may cover the hair with a shower cap whilst waiting. (Conditioner stuns lice for up to 20 minutes and makes combing easier)**
- 5. Separate the hair into sections.**
- 6. Comb through with the fine toothed comb**
- 7. Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a tissue and look for lice and eggs (nits).**
- 8. Remove all nits to assure total lice treatment.**
- 9. Rinse conditioner from hair and clean the fine-toothed comb with a toothbrush or dental floss.**
- 10. Repeat process every two days until clear.**
- 11. When clean, comb all family members weekly for early detection and prevention of new infestations.**

**Do not go to great lengths to wash bedding or spring-clean the house. After extensive examinations of carpets, mattresses, pillows, dress-up clothing and dolls in schools and day care centres researchers at James Cook University found no lice or eggs. These rooms all had a significant percentage of children with active cases of head lice. The conclusion is that the environment as a source of infection is zero. CONCENTRATE ON THE HEAD! Wash hairbrushes and combs in hot water. Lice die within 30 seconds in 60C water.**

**Remember also that each day is a new day for the risk of a new infestation. We do regular screenings at school but we need your help also. This is the best way to protect your family and community. Being consistent and diligent about manual removal will go a long way toward controlling the problem.**

Parents are encouraged to check for head lice regularly.

- Screen safely and regularly**
- Detect lice and nits as early as possible**
- Remove lice and nits immediately and effectively**
- Avoid panic and unnecessary use of chemicals**



What do I miss out on  
when I am not at school?

Lots!

Class discussions with friends  
and teachers.

Information and work that you will  
have to catch up on.

You will also miss out on seeing  
your friends



18<sup>TH</sup>-20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS



**ZODIACS NETBALL CLUB**

**2022 CLUB INFORMATION  
& TRYOUTS SESSION**



**YOU CAN PLAY FOR FUN  
OR AT YOUR BEST WITH  
THE ZODIACS**

**SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER,  
11AM- 12PM**

**WHERE: ZODIACS HOMEBASE  
STRATHDALE PARK TENNIS  
CLUB  
RESERVOIR & MCIVOR ROADS,  
STRATHDALE**

**RSVP:  
THEZODIACSNETBALLCLUB@OUTLOOK.COM**



## connecting & communicating with your young person: parent / carer webinar

headspace National in conjunction with headspace Bendigo are presenting a webinar for parents and carers of young people.

Information presented will cover:

- Understanding your young person, and recognising mental health difficulties.
- Managing the challenges of parenting young people today.
- Having better conversations with your young person.
- Connecting your young person with the right help and support.

The webinar will consist of a presentation on mental health, with a focus on noticing mental health difficulties in young people and supporting them to open up and communicate with you about their challenges, in order to seek help if needed.

**When:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup>

November at 7:00pm

**Where:** online via zoom

**How do I register?**

[Click here](#) to register via Eventbrite, or copy the following URL into your web browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/bendigo-parent-carer-webinar-communicating-with-youth-registration-169914339363>

After you have registered, you will receive an email confirmation from Eventbrite which will include the Zoom meeting link to access the webinar. Please note this webinar will not be recorded.

All those who register will receive a digital information pack, after the webinar, that includes key messages as well as links to resources & support services.

**Contact**

For more information email:  
[programsupport@headspace.org.au](mailto:programsupport@headspace.org.au)

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health



## Accessing help for my young person: parent / carer webinar

headspace National in conjunction with headspace Bendigo are presenting a webinar for parents and carers of young people to investigate mental health support services.

Information presented will cover:

- Strengthening your understanding of mental health and wellbeing.
- The conversational approach to mental health and well-being.
- Practical strategies and resources to support mental health.
- Building an awareness of local, state, and national support services available to young people.

This session is intended to increase your knowledge of the mental health sector and different levels of support.

**When:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup>

December at 7:00pm AEDT

**Where:** online via zoom

**How do I register?**

[Click here](#) to register via Eventbrite, or copy the following URL into your web browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/bendigo-parentcarer-webinar-accessing-help-for-my-young-person-registration-169914509873>

After you have registered, you will receive an email confirmation from Eventbrite which will include the Zoom meeting link to access the webinar. Please note this webinar will not be recorded.

All those who register will receive a digital information pack, after the webinar, that includes key messages as well as links to resources & support services.

**Contact**

For more information email:

[programsupport@headspace.org.au](mailto:programsupport@headspace.org.au)

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health