Dear OSHC Families,

**Arrangements for OSHC during COVID-19 for the remainder of term 2 26/05-24/06**

With students; grades prep - 1/2/3’s start 26/05 and grades 4-6 from the 8/06 set to return to on-site learning, we have received queries regarding the availability of Outside School Hours Care.

OSHC will be operating at a limited capacity of: 30 places, and services are required to prioritise care to children of essential service workers and vulnerable families. This is a business decision due to the fact that the Australian Government has suspended fee charges during this period and we are therefore not receiving any viable income. Until 28 June, we are not permitted to charge parents for OSHC, and we’re yet to receive advice on what the arrangements will be after that date. The federal government is providing assistance, but not at the same level of funding that we used to generate. Unfortunately, schools are not eligible for JobKeeper payments, so any additional staff we employ would be out of our own budget (non-school based childcare providers are eligible for JobKeeper so that might be why they’re able to open closer to normal capacity). We’ve based our limited capacity around the funding the government is providing, because if we go any higher than that we risk having to use school funding to subsidise the OSHC operations.

These arrangements will be in place for the rest of Term 2. We will provide information on the return to full capacity once we receive further guidance from the Department of Education.

To assist with our planning, we will amend booking procedures for Term 2.

**Term 2 Booking Process**

* All current bookings will be cancelled in Qikkids for the rest of Term 2 (**NOTE**: this does not impact your child’s enrolment they will continue to have a place at our OSHC service – current bookings will be re-instated for term 3).
* **Any Families requiring OSHC services from the 26th May until the end of Term 2 are required to re-book via email;** **swamy.ranita.r@edumail.vic.gov.au**
* All OSHC policies and procedures apply as usual
* If demand exceeds available spaces, parents will be contacted to ensure priority is given to essential service workers and vulnerable families.

If you have any queries regarding OSHC please contact: **swamy.ranita.r@edumail.vic.gov.au**

Kind Regards,

Ranita Swamy

BEPS OSHC

20th May 2020