



Solomon Islands
Government

Ministry of
Education and
Human Resources
Development



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Date:6 May 2020

CIRCULAR TO EDUCATION AUTHORITIES

Provincial Education Authorities
Faith Based Education Authorities
Private Education Authorities

Dear Chief Education Officer
Director of Education Authority
Secretary to Education Authority

Subject: 7th Circular to Education Authorities related to COVID-19

I write to communicate to you the announcements broadcasted in the MEHRD SIBC Radio Program by the COVID-19 MEHRD Communication Committee on Tuesday 5 May at 7:30 pm and repeated on Wednesday 6 May morning at 8:15am. The following announcements were made.

1. Acknowledgement to school leaders in Honiara schools

The MEHRD would like to acknowledge and thank school leaders from Honiara based schools for making themselves available to complete the school assessment checklists, which was administered by members of the National Disaster Operation Committee-Education. The primary objective of this assessment was to determine the initial capacity assessment and risks analyses of schools in Honiara. It was conducted from 29th- 30th April. The findings of this assessment is also expected to be used to establish and observe the preconditions for schools, teachers and the students in order to assure their health and wellbeing before a decision is made to reopen the schools in Honiara. Based on the findings of the assessment, it is envisaged that the National Government through MEHRD and Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) would assist schools with their health, water and sanitation requirements as they prepare for and respond to the COVID-19 threat.

2. MEHRD Learning Continuity Program

The learning continuity radio program has continued this week and will be extended next week. The program targets specific students from the year levels and topics. The following are included in this week's program.

- Monday - Early Childhood Education/Preprimary Year and the topic is; the "importance of play for learning."
- Tuesday - Year 1 to 3 English. The topic is; describing an order of events.
- Wednesday - Year 4, 5, and 6 classes - integrated learning and the topic is: who and where you are in place and time.
- Thursday - Junior Secondary (Form 1,2 and 3) -integrated learning and the topic is: Growing food for health and self-reliance.
- Fridays - Senior Secondary (Forms 4, 5, and 6)- integrated learning (history, geography and development studies) and the topic is : Urbanisation and urban drift



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3. Waimapuru National Secondary School

Advisory to reopen Waimapuru National Secondary School will be announced on Sunday 10th May 2020.

4. School Readiness Workshop

A school readiness workshop that targets school principals, head teachers and ECE supervisors from Honiara schools will be jointly conducted by MEHRD, MHMS, UNICEF and RWASH at the St Barnabas Cathedral, Leaf Hut on Thursday 7 May, starting at 9:00 am. School leaders of all schools in Honiara including Selwyn College, Tenaru, Betikama College are invited to attend the workshop. The objective of the workshop is to engage school principals to develop their Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of school preparedness, recovery, and response.

5. School Assessment For Boarding National Secondary Schools

Principals of Selwyn College, St Joseph Secondary, Betikama College, and King George VI National Secondary School are reminded that a team from MEHRD will conduct an assessment to their schools, to ascertain their preparedness against the coronavirus on Friday 8th May 2020. The principals are advised to be at their respective schools on this date.

6. Assessment for Provincial Schools in Emergency Zones

School leaders of schools in Gizo, Noro, Munda, Taro area and Shortland Islands are reminded that a team from the MEHRD will visit their schools to conduct an assessment on the week beginning 11th – 15th May 2020. All School leaders are required to wait in your respective schools.

7. School Calendar

School Services within the Ministry will revise the school calendar and Education Authorities and school leaders will be informed of this by May 30th, 2020.

8. MEHRD Website

Education Authorities and school leaders are invited to visit the MEHRD Website for any information regarding messages communicated through the SIBC radio or circular. The website address is: www.mehrd.gov.sb

Yours respectfully,

Franco Rodie, PhD
Permanent Secretary