Preparing for a school closure

Teacher Guide

In the coming weeks you may experience a situation in which you are expected to deliver content and communicate with students online. Although this will be a significant shift for most, maintaining structure and communication with your students will ensure learning continuity and safeguard student wellbeing and connectedness.

How can I support my students?

- Make sure your students know how to contact you. Take 5 minutes of your next lesson to review the best ways for them to contact you, and when you will be available if the school is to close.

- Identify the resources that students will have access to, while they are not at school. For example, issue a quick questionnaire like **this**.

- Make reasonable adjustments for students who do not have access to technology at home. For example, provide hard copies to any students that might not have internet access or resources via USB sticks.

- Plan learning activities now that can be implemented if your school closes without notice.

- Let students know what sort of technology you will be using to deliver content to them. Eg: Google classroom, Seesaw, Edmodo etc. Where possible, use platforms that students are already familiar with. If there are new platforms, take some time in class to have students engage with the technology with your support.

- Check that all students have a copy of and know their usernames and passwords for any online resources they will be expected to use.

- We suggest working with your school and colleagues to create a timetable/daily schedule for your class to follow at home.

- Plan how you will make daily expectations clear to students and regularly check in with them.

- Plan for how you will collaborate with colleagues if the school closes.

- Give your class time to borrow books from the library and introduce them to online reading resources so they have new texts to read while at home.

- Gather feedback from students about their learning and wellbeing on a regular basis. We suggest doing so with our Pulse Check surveys on the Pivot platform.