

IEU – Statement on School Staffing – 9 July 2020

The IEU supports the principle that those who can work from home should do so while restrictions are in place. The vast majority of schools managed remote working arrangements very effectively in Term 2 and are capable of doing so again if required. During the remote-learning period of Term 2, staff across our schools showed enormous dedication and innovation in maintaining quality teaching and student pastoral support, in many cases while working from home.

Minimising physical attendance at workplaces minimises the risk of transmission, and we call on employers to maintain staffing on school grounds at the levels required to teach any on-site classes and run supervision programs. Particular consideration should be given to staff who have health or family reasons for not attending the workplace. Other staff may prefer to work on school grounds, and this should be taken into account when planning on-site staffing levels.

There should be no obligation to physically attend the workplace to participate in planning meetings which can be run remotely.

Should Victoria transition back to remote teaching during Term 3, we encourage schools to employ casual relief teachers to assist with on-site supervision programs, allowing classroom teachers to focus on delivering quality education.