# Fact sheet - School absences due to extreme weather event or natural disaster

Parents/carers:

* If school remains open, notify the school that your child was absent due to an extreme weather event or natural disaster.
* Absences recorded as a result of an extreme weather event or natural disaster are ***not*** counted on a student’s report card.
* For further information regarding school closures and re-openings, check the department’s [School Closure](https://closures.qld.edu.au/) website or social media (Facebook and Twitter).
* If you are concerned that your child may have missed important work as a result of their absence, you should:
  + contact the classroom teacher regarding work that may have been missed
  + discuss how best to assist your child to catch up where necessary
  + remember that teachers will revisit and re-teach important concepts as part of their regular teaching plan.

Staff/principals:

* Follow processes in the [*Roll marking in state schools*](https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/roll-marking-in-state-schools-procedure) procedure.
* If parents/carers have advised that their child was unable to attend because of an extreme weather event or natural disaster, this absence reason would be considered a reasonable excuse.
* In these cases, the school should use the absence reason code ‘N’ (for extreme weather events or natural disasters). This code may be used whether or not the student is continuing to do school work while away from school, and may be used for full or part-day absences.
* Absences coded ‘N’ will ***not*** be counted in school absence data. This means that the school’s overall attendance rate will not be affected.
* If a school is closed due to an extreme weather event or natural disaster, the school should record the school closure in the OneSchool School Calendar by adding that date as a Non-School day with a Day Type of ‘School Closure’
  + Instructions for this process can be found in [OneSchool](https://oneschoolhelp.eq.edu.au/school-management/school-calendar) (available to DoE employees only).
* Rolls should ***not*** be marked on days the school is closed. Attendance and absence figures are not recorded when a Non-School day is recorded in the OneSchool School Calendar.

**Curriculum support for continuity of learning**

[Curriculum support for continuity of learning](https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/file/6f953822-eb08-473b-9f36-f5637af98019/1/index.html) can help teachers and school leaders plan for learning to continue during school closures or disruptions.

This site offers advice on: first steps when a school has to close due to extreme weather or natural disaster; curriculum resources for Years P-10; links to the public-facing [learning@home site](https://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/learning-at-home); activities for students; support materials for parents; and advice to school leaders.