



18 March 2020

COVID-19 Update #1

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can certainly appreciate that some of you are anxious and concerned by the unfolding situation with the virus. To ensure that the correct messages are being communicated from the school regarding any updates or school responses to the situation I will endeavour to provide updates as often as I can.

School Closures

- There are currently no plans to close schools on mass across the state. I acknowledge that this could change depending on the change in the situation.
- KDSC will only close if directed to do so by the government.
- What is likely to happen is that where there is an outbreak of the virus, schools in that cluster, town or suburb will close.
- The Department has organised cleaning teams to come into these schools and sanitise these schools if they have been closed due to the virus.

Update your details

- It is critically important that the school has your current mobile and email address on file for any mass communication and the potential distribution of school work in the event of KDSC closing.

Washing Hands

- We had communication from parents yesterday that their child did not have access to soap in order to wash their hands.
- This morning this situation has been rectified and students have access to soap dispensers and bars of soap where necessary.
- We are expecting our soap dispenser order to arrive this week.

I am keeping my child(ren) at home

- Thank you to those parents who have informed us that you will be keeping your children at home. I respect and acknowledge that this is your parental choice.
- If you are keeping your child at home due to your concerns around the virus your child's absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised'. We have been instructed by regional office that this is the absence code that should be used.
- We will work on a **week-by-week system** at the College whereby if you inform us that you are keeping your child home for an indefinite amount of time we will mark your child away for the week so that you don't get a text message.
- You will receive an absence text **each Monday** and please respond to this text and we will mark your child away for the week. This will be an on-going system.
- Teachers will not be supplying work to students for unauthorised absences.



- If a student needs to self-isolate in the future because they have or a member of their family tests positive for COVID-19 there is a different absence code for this and school work will be provided.
- Please understand that teachers are planning, teaching and assessing at school and it is business as usual – the College has not closed. In the background we are also preparing for the worst case scenario of the school closing so I won't be asking teachers to provide work for unauthorised absences.

If there is an update to provide to parents and carers on Friday I will do so. See you at the Cross-Country.

Kind regards

Steven Moore
PRINCIPAL