



Wednesday, 20 May 2020

Dear College Families,

It was only a few days ago that I wrote to you stating that I was contemplating when might be the appropriate time for us to resume face-to-face teaching and learning. Wonderfully, as of 8:05am yesterday morning I no longer have to contemplate that decision as our Premier announced that all schools will be returning to full on-campus learning from Monday, 25 May 2020. This news was greeted with much joy by College staff and is wonderful news for the entire College community. I look forward to celebrating with you in some form or another all that we have achieved together throughout this challenging season.

Whilst the Premier's announcement was for NSW State Schools, I would like to confirm that this announcement is informing decision making in the Independent education sector, including the College. Therefore, **the College will be returning to full on-campus learning on Monday, 25 May 2020.**

Following the Premier's announcement, Sarah Mitchell, the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, provided more detail regarding schooling from Monday, 25 May. These details are as follows and will be applied by the College. As of the Monday, 25 May the College will:

- conclude online learning. Students will resume face-to-face learning in the classroom environment;
- resume normal attendance procedures. If a student is not present they will be marked absent; and,
- require all students to be at school unless they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition or that they are currently unwell.

Although resuming face-to-face learning will feel as though the College has returned to normal there are a range of measures adopted by the College over the last two months that we will continue to apply. The College will continue to:

- operate a Kiss 'n' Go routine to restrict parent and carer time on campus;
- require adults within the College community to apply social distancing measures;
- facilitate assemblies online;
- not run excursions; and,
- apply the health advice with increased cleaning, access to hygiene supplies and compliance with hygiene practices.

Key Messages Regarding Infection Control, Hygiene and Social Distancing

It is vital that that all members of the College community engage with the following core messages from the Australian Health Principle Protection Committee (16 April, 2020):

- *Message for parents: if your child is sick, they must not go to school. You must keep them at home and away from others. Remember to maintain physical distancing from other parents and teachers when attending school, including when dropping off and picking up your children.*
- *Message for children: tell your parent, guardian or teacher if you are feeling sick.*
- *Message for teachers: do not come to work if you are sick or in a vulnerable person category.*
- *Message for all adults: the greatest risk of transmission in the school environment is between adults. It is of upmost importance that teachers and parents alike maintain physical distancing between themselves and each other at school.*

If Your Child is Sick

I wish to thank all families in our College community who have acted in the interest of everybody's safety and kept their children at home when they were sick and communicated this to the College. As per the above message, I would like to reiterate that if your child is sick please do not send them to school. Instead, please take time to consult with



your family GP for an assessment of your child's health. Please note, students who are absent for more than 3 days will be recorded and followed up by the classroom teacher or mentor to assess the need for the provision of learning materials.

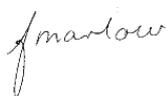
Re-establishing Routines

Perhaps the biggest challenge that families may face over the next few weeks is around re-establishing routines. I would encourage you to use the remainder of this week to spend time preparing your children for this next change. Ask them how they are feeling about returning to the College and take time to tune into those feelings. If they are excited, that's great but take the conversation further and ask them what they have realised about themselves as a learner during this period. If they are nervous, remind them that God promises that in "all things He works for our good" and also remind them that they can communicate how they are feeling to their teachers.

Conclusion

I am very much looking forward to Monday. I know that there is still more to do as we enter into recovery mode but I have absolute confidence that each member of our community will do it well. I am praying for you and can't wait to celebrate this together with you.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "fmarlow".

Felicity Marlow
Principal