



April 24th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust the final week of the break has been restful as we look towards the resumption of classes next Wednesday April 29th.

As mentioned earlier this week, our plan is for the first three weeks of Term 2 to follow the same pattern as the last weeks of Term 1. The High School will have a new timetable in place that will be advised on Monday. Students are encouraged to stay at home and:

- Remote learning will be provided through the GLO platform;
- Supervision at school will be provided for students whose families are essential services workers in some form, as defined by government.

Attached is the link to advise the school of your child/ren's attendance for Weeks 1 to 3. Please return this form by Tuesday April 28th:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=k8Mkc2-VU0Sfh_wmck7R9Xe-JDJINU9DvhAbfYqogqBUQzRZOEM1QzIFUFJIMVY0NTVCWFZDTjBPWS4u

Plans for a return to school

As has been emphasised by all voices in this crisis, the situation changes rapidly and it is not only difficult but also unhelpful to make plans that may change at short notice. On the one side, the transmission rates are down and there is commentary on the lifting of restrictions. On the other there is the real possibility of a sudden spike which will necessitate a return to restrictions.

We want to give parents as much certainty as is helpful, without locking us into a plan that may have to change, which would cause greater uncertainty. Much will depend on how the situation unfolds over the first three weeks of term.

However, we can say that if the situation continues to move in the current direction, then the following will take place.

There will be three stages in our return to school plan:

Stage 1: Weeks 1-3 the school will be in remote learning mode.

Stage 2: From May 18th there will be a staged, partial return to school for all year levels. I am sure you will appreciate how complex these arrangements are. We are finalising details of how this plan will work and will communicate these details during Stage 1.

Stage 3: Full return to school dependent on evidence of a low risk of transmission. We look forward to a full return of all year levels five days per week either before the end of Term 2, or at the very latest, the beginning of Term 3.

The return of any students will be based on strict control measures being in place. We work from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) guidelines on controls that minimise or eliminate the risk of infection for students and teachers. As you will be aware from media, the 1.5 metre rule on physical distancing does not apply to students in schools. All other controls will be strictly adhered to for students and teachers.

I thank you for your patience through this difficult period. If there is any insight to be gained from this crisis, it must be the powerful affirmation that we learn as whole human beings. The technology has served us well as a tool, but it is not just our brain that learns in front of a screen. The warm, beating heart of a living classroom made up of a community of students and teachers is education at its best, and we look forward to a return to that happy state.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Hill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue dot above the 'i' in Hill.

Andrew Hill
Head of School