



Dear Parents and Carers

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Thank you for the support you have shown the school. We are in extraordinary and difficult times and appreciate the way the community continues to pull together.

You will have heard that **NAPLAN testing has been cancelled for this year**. The Education Council, consisting of all education ministers, indicated that the decision was *“taken to assist school leaders, teachers and support staff to focus on the wellbeing of students and continuity of education”*.

The National Cabinet has agreed, on the advice of the chief health and medical officers, that *“pre-emptive closure of schools is not proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 at this time.”* All South Australian schools have been asked to remain open for all of Term 1 at this stage. This may change and we will continue to be guided by the advice given to us.

The overall feedback from the trial of students working from home was very positive and very informative. This has greatly assisted us in our planning so that we are prepared for partial or full closure of the school. We will be acting on the advice of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC) which advises Government and the decisions of Government schools. The **school will close** if we are directed to based on AHPCC advice or Government schools close.

If the school closes our intention is to **provide ongoing support on campus** to students of those working in essential services or otherwise unable to make alternative arrangements. This may, be limited, if necessary, to meet any Government restrictions or health advice. If your family is in this situation, please let us know as soon as possible.

Please be assured that the school is working to **prepare for all contingencies**. If the school closes students will be working from home for the existing Term dates and on their lessons as timetabled, it will not be an extended holiday. Students will need to continue engaging in their learning, complete assignments and different assessments. It is a time of uncertainty and this would be most concerning time for our Year 12 Students. There is great flexibility in the SACE and I am committed that all our Year 12 students have the very best opportunity to complete their SACE this year. Students will need to accept far greater responsibility for their learning not just in Year 12 but all Year Levels. As you continue to give your best efforts I am confident you will be able to finish the year, and successfully, and not disadvantaged. We will continue to communicate changes as we are updated by the authorities.

Yours in Christ

Principal

23 March 2020