



23/3/2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your prompt response to the survey sent out on Friday afternoon. Over 80% of those surveyed have responded and this has helped inform our ongoing planning.

Current Status

There are no reported cases of COVID-19 infection in any of our students, staff or direct contacts.

Update

- The **Australian Government's** advice and that of the Chief Health Minister is currently that schools should remain open until the end of Term One 2020.
- The **NSW Premier's** advice as of this morning, is that NSW schools should remain open till the end of term, however parents should consider keeping their children at home until the end of term.
- **AIS NSW** has sought to provide advice based on information they have received from both State and Federal Governments, Public Health as well the decisions being made by schools across the Independent Sector.
- Our Day with a Difference across the College was a helpful trial of what works well and what needs refinement to provide an effective online learning environment.

Decisions

The **PLC Armidale Executive** met today and after considering the advice received as well as feedback from our community has decided upon the following...

Week Nine: 23/03 - 27/03

- The College **remains open** with lessons prepared and delivered in a usual face to face delivery mode.
- **Year 12** are encouraged to **remain at school** to complete assessment tasks.
- Students not attending school will be given access to the work missed through email, Edumate and Google classroom in the Senior School or See-saw and Google classroom in the Junior School.
- Boarders may commence travelling home **at the end** of Week Nine or earlier by special arrangement if travelling interstate.

Week Ten: 30/03 - 03/04

- The College remains open with lessons and material to be provided online. If a student is onsite or if they are at home, they should have the same access to the same learning experiences.
- All Boarders apart from International Boarders or those who will be remaining in Boarding over the Easter Break, to travel home at the end of Week Ten.
- **Week Ten will mark the end of Term One** for students due to exceptional circumstances.

Week Eleven: 06/04 - 09/04

- **Staff development week** (pupil free) for additional training and preparation of quality digital learning experiences. All staff will work onsite as per their usual work arrangements.
- School work will not be provided for students, though **Year 12** should expect **non-term time** work will be set.
- A holiday activity program will operate in the **Junior School** for those children whose parents work in the **Health Sector, Emergency Services or who may not have other child care options available**. Details regarding this program will be sent to Junior School parents in Week Ten.

Actions

- Boarder families are asked to plan their daughter's transport arrangements and to communicate these to Mrs Alison Spencer, Head of Boarding.
- Boarders will be asked to pack up most of their belongings due to limited storage space in the box rooms and uncertainty of when Boarding will resume.

- Continue to encourage good hygiene practices. The clips on the Covid-19 page of our website are worth viewing:

[Proper handwashing! What gets left on your hands when you don't wash properly](#)

[Science for Kids - What Happens if You Don't Wash Your Hands | Operation Ouch](#)

- Practice social distancing/isolation. Our day girls are encouraged to limit their social activities at present to home and school wherever possible. Increased restrictions on exeats will apply to our Boarders.

Additional information regarding how the online learning or virtual school model will be sent home later this week. We are currently considering how best to support families with limited or no access to the internet. We are encouraged at the high percentage of families who would be able to collect learning packs or practical resources from the College on a weekly basis as a blended model may prove to be the most effective for some.

Likewise, separate communication will be sent to our Year 12 students as we seek to ensure that they continue to focus on their learning and completion of the Higher School Certificate program.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the College as we seek to make informed and considered decisions for the benefit of all.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, enclosed in a light blue rectangular box. The signature appears to read "N. Mc-Jayson".