



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL COVID-19 #12

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for your prompt response to our communication earlier in the week seeking feedback on a proposed phased return to campus for students.

Around the state, especially in the Independent Sector, many schools are making similar determinations. It was encouraging to hear a media report today advocating that regional schools be more flexible in their decision making taking into consideration both location and size.

We are committed to the safety and well-being of students and staff when considering the advice of Government and Health departments to schools and on campus delivery. The Executive have spent considerable time this week analysing the feedback received from families, staff and many of the girls as well.

CURRENT STATUS

- There are no reported cases of COVID-19 infection in any of our students, staff or direct contacts.
- There has been no change to the number of current cases of COVID-19 reported in my last update.

UPDATE

From the feedback received there was an overwhelming endorsement for the proposed phased return to campus as outlined below.

Phase One: Week 3 (11/05/20)

- Stage Six (Years 11-12, day students and boarders)
- Junior School (Pre-Kinder to Year Six)

Phase Two: Week 5 (25/05/20)

- Stage Four (Years 7,8)
- Stage Five (Years 9,10)
- Remaining Boarders return
- Peripatetic lessons resume

Phase Three: Week 6 (01/06/20)

- All students have returned to regular on campus classroom based learning
- Co-curricular programs and some College events resume.

PROTOCOLS

To accommodate this plan, risks have been assessed leading to the following control measures being put in place:

- Daily temperature checks for students conducted at Junior or Senior School reception upon arrival.
- Parents will be asked to collect any students with an elevated temperature or displaying other signs of ill-health.
- Increased cleaning and handwashing protocol across the College.
- Social distancing measures with restrictions on larger section or group gatherings.
- Junior School Homework Centre will not operate in Weeks 3 and 4 with a decision for subsequent weeks to be confirmed.
- Dining Hall will be restricted to Boarders only with increased hygiene and social distancing measures in place, including some staggered meal times.
- Day students will be required to bring both morning tea and lunch each day.
- Parents are asked to use the 'kiss and drop' zone on campus where possible, minimising contact as much as possible with other parents.
- Prompt collection of girls at the end of the day is also required.
- Assemblies and Chapel services will remain as recorded sessions accessed in class.

TRANSITION

Not all girls will return to the College according to the Phases outlined above. It is not feasible to maintain the full Remote Learning program along with the regular class timetable so transitional arrangements will be necessary.

Junior School

- The Junior School will resume their regular class-based learning program from **Monday 11 May 2020**.
- A day plan will be issued to any Junior School girl not returning with an outline of learning activities and resources. However, no synchronous lessons will be scheduled.
- Teachers will aim to check-in each alternate day via Zoom or phone call.

Senior School

- **Stages 4-5 (Years 7-10)** will remain in Remote Learning mode for Weeks 3 and 4.
- **Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)** will return to campus attending lessons on the Remote Learning timetable for Weeks 3 and 4. Additional synchronous sessions will be scheduled with class teachers in regular classrooms. Students on campus will have access to class teachers and additional support at mutually convenient times.
- **All year groups** will resume the regular on campus delivery mode from the commencement of Week 6.
- **Students not returning** as per the schedule outlined above will have full access to the Canvas learning platform where class materials will be accessed. No synchronous sessions will be held.
- **Note:** This week's remote learning pack consists of a Science activity for Years 7-10. Due to the Virtual Athletics Carnival, these will be available for collection anytime next week from the Administration building.

A more detailed outline of expectations for Stage 6 students and Boarders will be sent separately. Please read in preparation for a return to campus next week. A more detailed outline of the revised rooming arrangements to spread boarders across the three boarding houses will be provided in Week 4.

Plans and protocols are subject to review and may change subject to any change in the current status of COVID-19 in Armidale and surrounding region, as well as any change in the advice received by the College. Your understanding in this regard is appreciated.

Kind regards



