



# Marian College

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[www.mariansw.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mariansw.catholic.edu.au)

*A Community growing in Faith and Love • Serving Others • Striving to Achieve • Thinking for the Future*

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16 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I write to you with a further update on coronavirus (COVID -19). The health and wellbeing of our community is our first priority as a College and in light of the current situation, the following changes to our scheduled program have been made:

- All activities open to the public for the remainder of Term 1 have been cancelled. For example, the annual Cultural Diversity Night has been postponed to a later date as has the Sudanese and Vietnamese Family Nights.
- Excursions will be assessed on an individual basis. At this point the following have been cancelled and/or postponed:
  - Year 7-11 Reflection Day and Year 12 Study Day
  - Year 7 2020 Uniform Fittings
  - Year 7 Professor Bunsen Incursion
  - Structured Work placements
  - Whole School Easter Liturgy
- All SCSA sporting events for the remainder of the term have been cancelled.

Students have been addressed in regards to coronavirus and reminded again of the importance of practising good hand and respiratory hygiene. They have been asked to:

- Wash hands often with soap and water
- Cough and sneeze into the elbow
- Avoid touching mouth, nose and eyes.

Furthermore, students have also been asked to:

- Take all books/resources home and only bring the resources they need to school with them each day
- Take their laptop home everyday.

Our aim is to run instructional classes for as long as possible, so long as the school remains infection free and that Government advice is to do so. Should there be any indication of a suspected case of COVID-19 at Marian College we will be in immediate contact with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and take advice. The advice could include a school closure with the duration determined by DHHS. Please note the following:

- Families and staff will be notified by SMS, SEQTA Direqt Message and CareMonkey in the event of school closure

- If it was necessary to close the College for an extended amount of time, teachers will communicate with their classes via digital platforms (e.g. SEQTA, Google Meet, email etc)
- In relation to VCE studies, especially around assessments, we will take advice from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA).

Parents/Guardians are asked to notify the College as soon as possible via [principal@mariansw.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@mariansw.catholic.edu.au) if their daughter:

- Is being tested for COVID-19 due to being a suspected case
- Has been isolated due to being in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19
- Has been isolated due to being in close contact with someone who is being tested for COVID-19

'Close contact' is defined by DHHS as someone who has at least 15 minutes of face-to-face contact with a confirmed case, or shared a closed space with someone for more than two hours with a confirmed case.

As per the DHHS statement issued on Friday 13 March (<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-statement-doctor-brett-sutton>) students and staff should remain at home if they are ill and if in need of medical attention, phone their GP or the coronavirus hotline.

As of midnight Sunday 15 March all overseas travellers from overseas are required to self-isolate. As such any student returning from overseas should not return to school until 14 days after arrival in Australia and then only if they remain symptom free.

I ask all families (in line with government advice) to consider limiting overseas travel unless absolutely necessary. This particularly applies to holidays over the Term 1/Easter vacation.

The best sources of up-to-date information regarding coronavirus are the following government websites:

Department of Health and Human Services: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

Australian Government Department of Health: <https://www.health.gov.au/>

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Raymond Pisani  
Principal