



23 March 2020

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Information Letter 4**

Dear members of our All Souls St Gabriels School Community,

This is a rapidly evolving situation. Our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) continue to meet regularly to act accordingly upon advice, guidance and directives from the Queensland Health Department and Federal Government Authorities associated with this situation. The SLT are only being made aware of decisions and directives via official public releases of information. Once the information is publicly released, the team is meeting as quickly as we can to finalise contingency plans and options we have already discussed for our whole School community.

The SLT have met last night and again this morning. We prayed about and discussed the impact on our School community of the very recent announcement.

Statement on schools by the Prime Minister announced 22 March 2020

*All leaders agreed that children should go to school tomorrow. Leaders agreed that we cannot see children lose an entire year of their education as a result of school closures caused by COVID-19.*

*Leaders committed to the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) advice that says that it is safe to keep schools open.*

*Leaders also thanked all teachers and school staff for their support.*

*State Premiers and Chief Ministers agreed that schools will remain open through to the end of the current school terms to support students whose parents choose to send their children to school. Victoria's school break will commence on Tuesday 24 March 2020.*

*All Leaders have committed to re-open schools at the end of the school break, subject to the advice of the Australian Health Principal Protection Committee.*

*If parents choose to keep their children home from school, parents must be responsible for the conduct of the children and to ensure they adhere to the social distancing arrangements in place. Parents must be aware that while the majority of adults who contract COVID-19 have mild forms of the virus, the elderly or those with co-morbidities can have more significant symptoms.*

*Schools will be encouraged to provide access to online and distance learning.*

As per the directive from the National Cabinet:

**At this stage, All Souls St Gabriels School will remain open for teaching, learning and boarding.**

During these final days of the term, we continue to follow the government's advice to instigate 'proportionate measures' to control the spread of this virus – additional cleaning and enforcement of social distancing measures.

**To consider the health and well-being of our entire School community, we respectfully ask families who are unwell not to attend School classes or activities.**

**We are supporting any parents who make the decision to collect students early by saying that no student results will be disadvantaged by missing assessment this term.**

Once the situation regarding the start of next term is clearer, we will let all families know how we will address teaching, learning, assessing and reporting for this semester. Specific measures regarding academic programs into the future will be published by Tina Akers (Head of Junior School) and Ian Dietrich (Deputy Headmaster and Academic Dean).

For the time being, immediate Senior School academic measures include:

- All outstanding assessment due (assignments) for this term in Years 7 to 12 is required to be submitted by the due date, unless arrangements have been made for an extension through the class teacher and/or Head of Department. Staff understand that some students have travelled home early – emailed responses will be followed up by teaching staff.
- All exams for Years 7 to 12 continue as per the adjusted Exam Block schedule.
- Missed exams in Years 7 to 10 will not be rescheduled. Other academic evidence will be used for academic progress reporting.
- Missed exams in Year 11 will be rescheduled on case-by-case subject-by-subject basis.
- Year 12 students who missed exams will be able to sit a 'comparable' exam when they return to school.
- We are yet to receive advice and directives from QCAA regarding the calculation of overall results for 2020 Year 12 students.
- We are yet to receive advice and directives from the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) regarding the calculation of Australian Tertiary Entrance Ranks (ATAR) for 2020 Year 12 students.
- Students in Years 7 to 10 will continue to receive an ASSG Progress Report based upon completed assessment (including progress tests) as well as teacher classroom observation.
- Students in Years 11 and 12 will now also receive an ASSG Progress Report based upon completed assessment (including progress tests and draft assignment work) as well as teacher classroom observation. ASSG Unit Reports are on hold until guidance is received regarding assessment for Units 1 and 3.

The following events are still taking place:

- Junior School Book Fair
- Junior School Cross Country Training
- Junior & Senior School Inter-House Cross Country
- Years 7 to 12 adjusted Exam Block



In addition to the major events listed in Information Letter 3, the following events are now cancelled:

- Junior and Senior School Sporting Team Training for all team sports
- Concert Band, Stage Band and Musical rehearsals
- Senior School Term 2 Parent/Teacher Interviews (these may take place via alternative communication methods – pending the decision on a return date for Term 2)

### 100 Year Celebration Events

Unfortunately, all events have been cancelled for this year. Further details regarding refunds and a new date will be published in separate correspondence.

### Annie (School Musical)

Planning for alternative arrangements for the final performances are continuing to take place – pending the decision on a start date for Term 2. More information will be published as soon as possible.

### QISSN & QISSRL (Confraternity)

The appropriate associations have informed the School that these events are cancelled for 2020.

### General advice

Further advice and information about the coronavirus is available on the Qld Health website: <http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/217/838/novel-coronavirus>.

The SLT would also encourage parents to view a short video that provides guidance regarding communication on this situation with younger members of their family. The video can be accessed via this link [https://schooltv.me/wellbeing\\_news/special-report-coronavirus](https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronavirus)

Thank you for the messages of support we have received. Your prayers at this time are also appreciated. The All Souls St Gabriels School spirit is certainly alive.

Jon Teichmann continues to be the main contact (School COVID-19 Liaison Officer) regarding this unfolding situation. If you have any questions regarding the information included in this letter, please contact Jon (07) 4788 2210 or via email [jteichmann@allsouls.qld.edu.au](mailto:jteichmann@allsouls.qld.edu.au)

Regards,

**Darren Fleming**  
Headmaster