

Dear Parent/Guardian

**RE: Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Department of Health advises us that the risk of transmission in Western Australia remains low. The current focus is on minimising and preventing transmission.

As advised by the Federal Government on Sunday 15 March, the Prime Minister placed measures on international arrivals in Australia resulting in a mandatory 14-day self-isolation requirement for the recently returned traveller. In addition, travelling overseas was upgraded to level 4 – 'do not travel overseas at this time'. The Australian Government also announced that all non-essential mass gatherings attended by more than 100 people for indoor events and more than 500 people for outdoor events.

In response to this information, Ashdale Secondary College has postponed the Year 12 College Ball until 26 June 2020 and is currently re-scheduling College photos.

Further to the communication on Monday we have cancelled attendance at the following excursions;

- Yr 10 STEM Fame Lab Academy
- Yr 11 and 12 ATAR Politics State Library
- Yr 12 Earth and Environmental Science camp Kalgoorlie
- Yr 12 Geography Alcoa
- Yr 11/12 General Drama Heath Ledger Theatre
- Yr 9 Northern Districts Lightning Carnival
- Yr 8 Lightning Carnival
- School Sport WA After School Netball
- School Sport WA after School Soccer
- Outdoor Education Surfing and Snorkelling

I understand that many parents and families have made decisions based on individual needs to keep their children at home. We have additional hygiene precautions in place and have allocated students to dedicated year group areas in the College grounds to promote social distancing. Staff will continue to use Connect and other platforms, but we are unable to provide individual curriculum work and activities for students. The priority for staff is to maintain focus on classroom learning programs, and in the event of a temporary closure additional plans will be put into place.

I have included a handwashing reference sheet that will be displayed around the College based on requirements from the World Health Organisation. I encourage you to talk to your child about social distancing and hygiene. Discourage them from hugging, sharing of food and drink items and other activities which involve direct personal contact or mixing in large groups.

The Department of Education, Catholic Education Western Australia, and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia will continue to respond as a collaborative team to notices from the WA Department of Health and provide updated advice to schools, which I will provide as updates to the community.

Kind regards



Kylie Bottcher  
Principal

19 March 2020