

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

I would like to thank the community for their ongoing support as we have commenced Term 2. It was pleasing to see so many students returning to the College and hearing the sounds of students around the grounds. We certainly did miss them and in talking to many students they also did miss school but probably don't like to admit it. As of today, 76% of our students have returned.

Last week we monitored the numbers of students who returned to the College. While lower than expected in some year groups, it was pleasing to see the majority of our Year 11 and 12 students returning for what is an incredibly important time in their educational journey and one where quality face to face teaching is maximised. We look forward to seeing increasing numbers as WA moves to a better place concerning COVID-19.

By now you will be well aware that the government will be reviewing the situation in schools as well as other restrictions but for the time being the College is continuing to provide online learning for the small numbers of students who continue to remain at home. While the majority of classes are returning to near full capacity, the online learning notifications will continue to come through Connect. For those families with children attending the College, please ignore these. The numbers of students attending are changing at such a rapid rate, the provision of discrete online groups at this stage is challenging when a student is online one day but attending the College the next.

I do ask that parents/guardians continue to communicate with the College if your child is remaining at home and notify us of predicted return dates. I have also had a small number of parents contact the College in terms of their child attending the College for some days and not others. While I acknowledge the choice ultimately lies with parents, this approach will not give continuity to learning as the face-to-face teaching program will not represent what is occurring online. In most cases, the teacher who is monitoring and preparing the online tasks is not your child's classroom teacher and therefore is not in a position to provide individualised learning programs.

For all our Year 11 and 12 ATAR students, we have decided that Semester One exams will take place at later dates. Year 12 exams have been compressed to occur in weeks six and seven (commencing 4 June 2020), while Year 11 exams will take place in weeks eight and nine (commencing 15 June 2020). During the exam period, all General and VET students will still be required to attend, and classes will continue. This approach will minimise the time in which students will miss any further face-to-face teaching, while still allowing the critical component of exam assessments to take place.

In terms of formal reporting for Semester 1, the College has decided to provide formal reports with A-E grades for Years 10-12. The format for Years 7-9 is still being finalised, and I will communicate this with you when available. It is essential to understand that grades are indicative of progress with final grades awarded at the end of the year (except for elective rotations). The work and assessments that were scheduled to take place during the disruption of Term 1 (weeks 8-10) will not be counted, and no child will be disadvantaged from this time. Students who are remaining home and taking part in online learning may also have further alterations made to our reporting schedule.

As of Monday 11 May, all students with scheduled period 0 (before school) classes will recommence. It is important to note that at this stage, outdoor education classes will complete the course requirements within the College grounds as camps and excursions are not allowed to take place under the AHPPC guidelines. All current arrangements in the College in regards to cleaning and the designated year group areas will remain in place until further reviewed. The Learning Hub remains closed as does the College café seating area. Parents and external visitors are still unable to attend the College unless prior arrangements have been made.

Thank you for your continued support during this time.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kylie Bottcher'.

Kylie Bottcher
Principal

4 May 2020