



24 April 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Update 10 from the Principal and Chair of School Council COVID-19 Financial Support for School Families

Thank you for all of your ongoing support during this time of unprecedented change as we navigate the global health and economic emergency caused by the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the necessary restrictions and changes to daily life imposed by our State and Federal Governments required to flatten the curve.

Throughout the school holidays the Principal, Business Manager, Senior Leadership Team and School Council have worked on a more tangible way to recognise the financial hardship and associated ramifications of the COVID-19 virus.

As such, following a recommendation from the Principal, the School Council has resolved to offer fee relief of 40% to be applied to the billed amount per parent account for Term 2, 2020, as an acknowledgement of the financial hardship created by the COVID-19 virus.

We remain proud of our Lindisfarne staff and the rapid response to support the restrictions imposed by the State and Federal Governments, being amongst the first schools to successfully move to online, remote and home-based learning. The decisions made 18 months ago to provide a school owned 1-1 device program as a tool to support learning has provided students, staff and parents with a standardised delivery platform resulting in continuity of learning during this time of great difficulty and expedient changeover to remote curriculum delivery.

However, we also recognise that life as we know it changed overnight and many of our events and programs have been suspended or are on hold indefinitely. Whilst we have put in place a graduated, staggered and managed return to school plan for Term 2, we also recognise that it will be necessary to operate in a restrictive way for some time into the future, given the vital need to continue to support State and Federal Government COVID-19 containment measures.

It is also increasingly obvious that it will be a considerable time before there is a return to regular employment, business conditions and economic confidence and the resultant financial hardship resolved.

It is hoped that the immediate fee relief of 40% to be applied to the billed amount per parent account for Term 2, 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 virus, will allow families some space and tangible financial support to plan for the remainder of the School year and the years beyond COVID-19.

As a school, we remain consumed by the present but we must continue to plan for the future of our school with our goal to be here for as many children, families and staff - post COVID-19.

We appreciate the contact from School families who have offered their support to the School, staff and the Senior Leadership team at this challenging time, including in a small number of cases, financial support for bursaries to further assist children of families in extreme financial hardship and donations to the School building fund. This generosity of spirit is typical of our Lindisfarne Community and always greatly appreciated.

We also appreciate the parents who have made contact with the school in recent times to request additional assistance from the school. It is recognised that the hardship experienced by many of our families is extreme, so please contact the school if you require further assistance.

In these difficult times we also call deeply on our faith and truly live out our Anglican ethos, our School values of compassion, wisdom and respect and extend the love of our School Community to you all at this most difficult time.

Thank you again for your unwavering support as we navigate these uncharted waters together.

Kind regards,



Stuart Marquardt
Principal



Dominique O'Neill (2004)
Chair of School Council