



6 April 2020

Dear Members of the Lindisfarne School Community,

Update 8 from the Principal

As we close out Term 1, I wanted to thank everyone in our school community for their support and understanding as we moved to remote learning. The positive feedback and way in which students, staff and parents have embraced this new reality for learning has been overwhelming.

The decision to implement the ConnectEd program 18 months ago allowed us to transition and lead the way for remote and online learning. Having our students on a standard device as a normal tool of learning has been the foundation for our students and staff to continue delivering and receiving a quality curriculum ensuring continuity of learning during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, the on-going commitment of our staff to professional learning and e-learning development, as a 21st Century school, has enabled us to adapt far more quickly to the challenges that all schools have faced.

We are planning for the very real possibility that remote learning will need to continue for a period of time in Term 2. To prepare effectively after the Easter holiday break, remote classes will **resume on Wednesday, 29 April 2020**. This means that there will be an additional pupil free day, with the Monday and Tuesday of the first week of Term 2 to be used for collaborative staff planning. This will mean that we are positioned to deliver remote, online and home based learning for as long as necessary through the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, we are eagerly preparing for the day when we can have all our students return to our campuses in a full-time and face to face capacity.

The cards we have been dealt this year have been difficult for all of us, we have responded in a manner to provide continuity of learning for our students throughout 2020. I am acutely aware that the current situation with COVID-19 has created, not only health, but also economic challenges for local, national and global communities. Some members in our school community have been impacted in minor ways, for other members of our community, significant hardship has been created almost overnight. It is fair to say that all of us are impacted in some way at this time.

As we plan for the continued operations of the school next term and into the future, Term 2 fees are also due for payment and these will be sent tomorrow as per our usual schedule. I am acutely aware at this difficult time; these fees may provide additional challenges for families. If you need assistance from the School, I urge you to please contact our accounts team to discuss what assistance we can provide.

I thank the school community as we navigate these difficult times together. We have a remarkable school, and whether we realise it or not, we shall emerge stronger from this time through our shared experiences.

In closing, I urge all families to support QLD/NSW Health, State and Federal Government requirements around personal hygiene, social distancing and self-isolation.

I pay tribute to our school parents and families at the frontline of this world health emergency and all those who continue to provide essential services at this time of great challenge.

I have recorded a message for you to view in support of this letter.

[Video message from Principal Stuart Marquardt](#)

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Marquardt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stuart Marquardt
Principal