



16 March 2020

## COVID-19 \_Update 5\_ Letter to Community\_16 March 2020

Dear members of the Lindisfarne school community,

I wanted to write today with important information in relation to the ongoing COVID-19 containment measures being implemented by NSW Health, the State and Federal Governments.

There is much public debate about possible school closures and, at this stage, schools remain operational. Last night, Dr Kerry Chant, PSM Chief Health Officer New South Wales Health, released a detailed statement in relation to decisions concerning schools remaining open at this time.

### [Letter from Chief Health Officer](#)

In addition, schools have been advised to implement social distancing strategies and we have commenced actioning this immediately.

All forms of social greeting, including handshaking, will cease.

Many school events and activities will be cancelled, postponed or modified.

Some of the actions Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School is taking include:

- We are suspending any large gathering of students for the remainder of the term, including our assemblies.
- All school excursions outside of our local community will be cancelled.
- We will cease, until further notice, any form of contact our students have with age care facilities and other facilities in the community where there are elderly people with underlying health conditions.
- All overnight excursions and camps for the remainder of Term 1 will be cancelled.
- All major arts, sports, activities and events will be temporarily ceased until further notice. This includes whole school sporting events and inter-school events involving three or more schools.
- Regular weekly school sport will continue at this stage.

School staff will not be attending large conferences or educational seminars until further notice or under taking travel to attend events of this nature.

In addition, the School will be strictly enforcing the Federal Government measures covering people arriving in Australia as of 12.00am (midnight) 15 March 2020.

Individuals must self-isolate for a period of 14 days on arrival to Australia, including returning Australian citizens and residents. You are also required to self-isolate if you have been diagnosed with the COVID-19 or if you have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection. The Australian Government now advises all Australians reconsider their needs for overseas travel at this time. Regardless of the destination, your age or health, if overseas travel is not essential you should consider carefully, whether now is the right time to travel.

I remind all Lindisfarne staff, students and families that the health and safety of our community is paramount. If you are unwell with cold, flu-like symptoms or respiratory illness, please remain at home until symptoms resolve and, where appropriate, seek advice from a medical practitioner (call ahead first).

Finally, should the State and or Federal Government advise of school closures, we will act quickly to implement and action to the best of our ability opportunities to continue aspects of the curriculum and learning online.

Thank you for your support at this time.

Please contact the Deputy Principal or your Head of SubschooL should you have any questions.

Kind regards,

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

Stuart Marquardt  
**Principal**