

18 February 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians

As advised by the Department for Education, I would like to update you on the situation regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the current Federal Government health advice that the College is following.

Last week, the Federal government announced it will extend the travel ban on foreign nationals who have recently been in mainland China for a further week, from 15 February 2020, to protect Australians from the risk of Coronavirus.

Restrictions remain in place for people who have recently returned to Australia from mainland China, with prior advice still current across all schools, preschools and early childhood services:

You **cannot** attend school, preschool or an early childhood service if:

- If you have left, or transited through, mainland China – you must isolate yourself until 14 days after leaving China.
- If you have been in close contact with a *confirmed* case of Coronavirus – you must isolate yourself for 14 days after last contact with the confirmed case.

You **can** attend school, preschool or an early childhood service if:

- Children, students and staff who have returned from mainland china and have isolated themselves for 14 days after leaving China
- Children, students and staff who have only been to Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan.

Fact sheets were updated on 17 February and can be found at:

www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources

We encourage families to keep this page bookmarked, and check it regularly for updates. The Department of Health has also issued the following advice in relation to preventing the spread of viruses:

- Teach and *encourage your children to wash their hands often* with soap and water before and after eating as well as after going to the toilet;
- Avoid spreading infections to others *by keeping children home if they are unwell*;
- Teach children to *cough and sneeze into their elbow*.

If you have any questions about Coronavirus, you are encouraged to contact the **National Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080**.

If you have not recently visited China, or been in contact with any person with a *confirmed* case of this virus, you should continue to feel confident to send your child/ren to school. We will let you know if the advice changes.

Yours sincerely,


Ms Helen Steele
Principal



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