



21 April 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope this finds you and your families well and enjoying your time at home, for those who are at home. Today's update is very short; I am sure you will be relieved to know.

As you know this term we will be continue with Off Campus Learning (OCL) as directed by the State Premier and Queensland Minister for Education. This system will be in place until Friday 22 May 2020 at this stage and we will know by Friday 15 May if it is to continue for a few weeks longer or if students will be allowed back in classrooms from Monday 25 May. **This means that all students will continue with home-based learning, with the school remaining open during this period only for students of those unable to supervise their children at home.** Those children who need to be on campus will be supervised and supported but not taught by the staff on duty. They will follow the same timetabled classes remotely, the same as those learning from home.

Attached to this email is a brochure outlining everything you need to know about our Off Campus Learning program. You may wish to print it out for ready reference over the next few weeks.

### On campus temperature checks

Saint Stephen's College is fortunate to have been gifted four infrared thermal thermometers and 3000 high quality masks. We thank the Shi family, parents of students in Year 6 and Year 10 at the College, for their generosity and sharing their medical expertise with us. These items will be an additional level to keeping our campus safe. Temperature checking stations will be located at the Western and Eastern entrances to our College campus. All other access gates to the College will be closed until further notice. Temperature checking stations will be in operation from 7.30am weekdays. **Temperature checks will be mandatory for any person entering our campus.** These checks are able to be completed within seconds. High quality masks are available for all staff and students who choose to wear them at school and can be collected from our College Nurse.

### Timetables

Timetables will be emailed to the students in Years 7 to 12 tomorrow. These timetables will be in place, at this stage, until Friday 22 May.

### Uniform

Students are expected to wear their College sports shirt whilst they are engaging in Off Campus Learning. This assists in students developing a routine and maintaining academic focus, and it is appropriate when interacting via MS Teams and using webcams.



Developing character, inspiring hope

## **Financial support**

Please remember that any family requiring extra financial support at this time should please contact Mrs Kirti Kumar in the Accounts office to discuss how we can support you. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful job being done by Mrs Kumar, supported by Mrs Dolores Santosa and the rest of the Finance team. It is a trying job at the best of times, made more stressful by the current situation and hearing the stories of many who are struggling at this time. Mrs Kumar deals with all communication in a confidential, respectful and friendly manner.

Thank you to the families who have contributed to the Scholarship Fund, created to support those who need it. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to the many parents who have written such kind words to us regarding our management of this challenging situation. I am pleased that you can see, appreciate and also value the incredible work of our staff and the flexibility of our students. Blended learning has been alive and vibrant at the College for some time; we are fortunate that our students are not new to learning in this way.

I sincerely wish you and your families well as we continue this experience together. Let us embrace the challenges, celebrate the successes and work together to make the best out of this very difficult time.

*God of life,  
you have promised to be with us every day,  
also in difficult days, like in times like these.  
Give us  
clarity in our minds,  
strength in our work and discernment,  
rest as we sleep,  
peace in our minds.  
Be with those  
who need help  
more than we do ourselves  
help us to see what we can offer  
from your love.*

***General Secretary of the World Council of Churches***

Kind regards



Kim Cohen

**Principal**