



30 March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope that this letter finds you all well and safe.

You will be aware that the Prime Minister made another announcement last night, indicating stricter rules with regards to social distancing. This was backed up by Chief Medical Officer, Brendan Murphy, who said, 'We need to all stay home unless we're going out to shop, to do personal exercise, to go to medical appointments, or to go to work or study if you cannot work from home ... Anyone who doesn't need to be out of their home should be in the home. This is radical and the vast majority of Australians have done the right thing, we've seen huge evidence of that'.

To ensure that at Saint Stephen's College we are complying with the latest rules and doing our bit to contain the spread of the virus, I have instructed all staff who can do their jobs from home to do so. Obviously, there will still be staff on campus to supervise the children of essential workers who cannot make alternative arrangements. However, if you, your partner, or older children are working from home, you should keep your children at home to do their studies in that environment and decrease their interaction with other children and teachers. So, unless there is no one able to be at home to supervise your child/ren, they should not be at school, in line with government directives.

Our remote and online teaching continues to be highly effective and students remain engaged. I have popped into a few online classes being taught by the few teachers still on campus and there is certainly a positive and enthusiastic buzz, albeit from a distance.

Please remember that there are resources in Parent Lounge to support you at this time. You will find information with regards to emotional and intellectual, spiritual and physical wellbeing. These will be updated over the next few days.

All the best and thank you again for your ongoing support as we enter a new phase of education.

Yours sincerely

Kim Cohen
Principal



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