



St Norbert  
College

17 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**The following information regards the College's position around the Coronavirus (COVID -19)**

Symptoms of COVID-19 relate to a fever or respiratory symptoms - these can include a cough, shortness of breath, rapid breathing, a sore throat, or a runny nose. If you develop these symptoms, the advice is to see a doctor and provide the doctor with details of your travel history.

**Please note, we are seeking your co-operation in that if your child is unwell, with symptoms associated with the virus, that you please seek medical advice and keep them at home. Please ensure they are fully well and cleared by a doctor before returning to the College.**

The College will provide work during student absence from school during this outbreak.

St Norbert College continues to monitor the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to ensure the safety of our school community. Our advice will continue to be in line with WA Government, Department of Health, and Catholic Education WA advice. The WA Department of Health has updated information including frequently asked questions about the COVID-19. To view this information visit; [www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus)

**International Travel**

The Prime Minister has introduced measures placed on international arrivals into Australia. This means a mandatory 14 day self-isolation requirement has been placed on all international arrivals into Australia effective from 9pm (WST) on Sunday 15 March.

Western Australian schools are now required to introduce new precautionary measures.

As with all Australian travellers, students and staff who return from international travel must self-isolate for 14 days. This includes all parents, contractors and school visitors. Ideally, students or staff members in the same house as a person self-isolating should make alternative residential arrangements to mitigate any possible spread of the virus. If this is not possible, staff and students residing in the same residence as a self-isolating person MUST ensure they do not have any contact with the individual.

**School Closure**

At this stage, students are to continue to attend school each day, however staff and student health continues to be our highest priority. The current focus is on minimising and preventing transmission and making sure that our school is prepared for a possible case. To date, there are no confirmed cases of COVID -19 in WA schools.

Currently, if any WA school has to close due to a confirmed case, it will be on the advice from the WA Health Department's Chief Health Officer. The Chief Health Officer may, if

TRADITION  
INNOVATION  
COMMUNITY

135 Treasure Road  
Queens Park WA 6107  
PO Box 354 Cannington  
WA 6987

T: (08) 9350 5433

Priory: (08) 9458 2729

F: (08) 9356 1602

E: [snc@norbert.wa.edu.au](mailto:snc@norbert.wa.edu.au)

W: [www.norbert.wa.edu.au](http://www.norbert.wa.edu.au)

ABN: 29 781 711 208

CRICOS Code: 00455B

there is a positive COVID-19 test result in a school community, close a school temporarily while assessment and tracing of exposure is conducted.

In the event of school closure, parents would also be advised of the extent to which class work can be completed at home during this temporary closure and provided with details of how this will be done. Our goal would be to sustain curriculum delivery to the best of our ability.

It is possible that all WA schools may be instructed to close at some point in the future, however, at this time, we have no further information regarding a blanket closure of schools in WA. While it is acknowledged that this is a challenging time for all school communities, parents are reminded that any school closure would be to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

### **Parent Choice to Isolate**

Parents choosing to isolate their children do so with an understanding that the College can only provide continuance of learning through our current SEQTA means and structures. Teaching staff are not currently in a position to provide anything beyond this. We are doing our best to develop and facilitate an online learning environment for the possibility of school closure, but given we are currently still also teaching in a fulltime capacity in the classroom, our ability to provide other online tools has not been finalised at this point and these will be made available in the event of school closure.

### **College Events**

The College Leadership team has made the decision to cancel all 'non-essential' gatherings from now until the school holidays, on the advice of the Australian Government, the Minister for Education in WA and CEWA. After the holidays we will then reassess the situation.

Therefore, our College Leadership Team has made the unenviable decision to cancel or postpone the following events from our Term 1 calendar;

- ACC Junior and Senior Sport, including ACC 'D' Division Swimming carnival
- Year 11/12 Workplace Learning program
- Breakfast Club
- Harmony Day activities and celebrations
- Have Sum Fun Year 7-10 Face to Face
- Peer Support Leaders & New students lunch
- Kairos #27 Retreat and training
- Year 7 Social
- Year 7 World of Maths Incursion
- Year 10 Retreat/Careers Days
- G1ISC Coastal Excursion
- Extended homeroom events such as Wellbeing Wednesday
- Year 7 Benediction
- Year 11 RAC bSmart Event
- Holy Week Liturgies (replaced with Homeroom Liturgies)
- Interhouse Cross-Country Carnival
- House and College Assemblies
- Sound of Music Rehearsals
- Extracurricular clubs, sport training and activities

Staff coordinators of these events will notify students of the specific nature of this decision.

More information will come home at a later date, in regard to what, if anything, will be organised in lieu of some of these events not being held at this time.

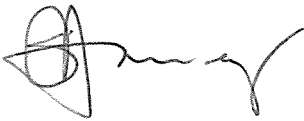
**Monitoring**

We will continue to monitor what seems to be a constantly changing environment and to make decisions focussing on the welfare of our students and staff, based on the most recent expert available information. Please be assured that we are being vigilant and keeping a constant watch on developments regarding this matter and that we will send out updates when and if we think they are required. ***Above all, our priority is the health and welfare of the students, staff and broader community.***

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the College or my office.

Thank you for your ongoing support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Harvey', written in a cursive style.

Simon Harvey  
PRINCIPAL