



Dear Families

I doubt there has been a more challenging time our country's history since the end of the Second World War. As a nation, we have suffered through years of drought, a summer of bushfires followed by floods. Now we face a global illness unprecedented for the past hundred years.

I am very proud of our students who persist with their learning, including those continuing to engage from home. Students who continue to show for school have, to a large extent being respectful of each other by considering personal hygiene protocols.

I would like to thank the professionalism and hard work of all of our staff who continue to arrive at work each day and keep learning happening in classrooms and the school operating as normally as possible under the current circumstances.

We ask for your support and patience at this time while we continue to find ways to best provide on-going learning for all of our students.

Accessing the latest and most accurate advice

As a state school, we are bound by the advice of the government. The school does not have the capacity to cancel essential programs of learning or alter the weekly school schedule. Rumour and speculation have no place in the current situation and only serve to increase the anxiety of students. We continue to follow the advice of the government who are making decisions based on medical advice. The Queensland Health Department has the most accurate and up to date information about the Coronavirus <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19>

Continuation of learning

- While the school remains open, learning is most effective in the classroom environment with immediate access to your teachers and, as a result, we encourage you to continue to attend school if you are well and able to.
- If you are working from home, your first priority should be upcoming assignments and preparation for exams. Please refer to the 'Assessment' section below for further details about assessment.
- Our teachers are still in classrooms teaching the students who are attending schools. It is not possible for teachers to provide teaching instruction via an online platform while at the same time providing face-to-face instruction. Learning resources are being made available on DayMap.
- We appreciate students may have questions regarding assessment at this time of term and have been emailing their teacher. Currently around one-third of students are staying home and the volume of emails received each day means not all are being responded to as quickly as we would like. Common questions that students have will be answered in the class feed on DayMap.
- Information regarding the provision of education in Queensland schools changes daily. If the current situation regarding school closures were to change, decisions to move a wholly online platform may then be made.

The following information is relevant to assessment during the final two weeks of Term I. Decisions regarding continuation of learning and assessment in Term II will be made toward the end of the Easter school holidays.

Assessment Years 7 – 9

- We encourage students who are well and able to complete all term 1 assessment.
- Assignments can be done at home and submitted online through DayMap.
- If students are unable to be at school for exams or performances teachers will endeavour to provide an academic grade based on other available evidence e.g. other in-class assessment that has taken place, class performances, discussions, bookwork etc...
- Where there is insufficient evidence, a student will be given 'Not Rated' for their academic results. This is not a fail, it simply means a result cannot be provided. Students will still receive a grade for 'Effort' and 'Behaviour'.
- Term I reports are interim progress reports only and will not contribute to an overall semester result.

Assessment Year 10

- Exam block will still be held. Students not required at school when they do not have a scheduled exam.
- Exams modified to open book style. Students can come to school and complete as per schedule or complete from home. Students can access class notes and use device (laptop/tablet or phone) either at home or at school for references.
- Assignment submitted online via Daymap
- Practical performance done at school as per normal using social distancing protocols.

Year 11 Assessment

- The school is required to follow the assessment policies of the Qld Curriculum and Assessment Authority for the senior curriculum.
- Thankfully, all year 11 assessment outstanding for this term is assignment based with the exception of one subject (Design). All assignments should be submitted through daymap.
- Students who are genuinely sick and unable to meet assignment deadlines are to follow the assessment policy process and apply for an extension. Please contact your child's teacher if this is the case.

Year 12 Assessment

- There are only two subjects (Health and Design) that have assessment still to be completed this term.
- Mock exams in week 10 will go ahead while the school remains open
- Students will complete exams in classrooms to avoid large gatherings indoors.
- Students not required at school if they do not have a scheduled exam

Sincerely



John Thornberry
College Principal