



Dear parents and caregivers

As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, we have been closely following Department of Education directives, which are based on the advice of Queensland Health.

I thank you for your patience as we have worked through these challenging times. Your support has allowed us to maintain a focus on teaching and learning and some normality of routine for the children of our school.

The Queensland Government has today announced that an additional five (5) Student Free Days will be in place next week, from Monday 30 March to Friday 3 April inclusive.

This means the Term 1 break will start early for students and your child will not attend school next week, unless they are children of essential workers or vulnerable children, such as those in out-of-home care.

Essential workers are those that **must currently continue to attend their workplace** during this difficult time and supervision will be provided at our school for children of these workers where required during the week of 30 March to 3 April inclusive.

If you are an essential worker and wish to send your child to school to be supervised next week you must ensure your child is well and not displaying any signs of illness. To help us plan activities and supervision for next week can I ask that you

- Notify the school if your child is going to be attending next week. Please use the email SFDAttendance@eq.edu.au please include your child's name and year level.
- Ensure they have adequate food and drink. Given the expected small numbers next week the school canteen will not be open.

The Student Free Days have been provided to allow Queensland state school staff opportunities to plan for the delivery of learning in the event that the education sector needs to move to flexible and remote learning for students at the commencement of Term 2.

School will resume on Monday 20 April unless health advice determines otherwise. Further information on the return of students to school for Term 2 will be provided over the Term 1 break.

If you would like to support your child's learning next week, a newly established learning@home website has been developed by the Department of Education and can be accessed at <https://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/learning-at-home>. This site contains a range of student learning material and other high quality education websites that will help your child's learning.

Assessment

All exams and outstanding assessment has been cancelled. If your child has completed an assignment and wishes to submit it for marking they are welcome to do so, although there is no requirement. Our Heads of Department met today and agreed that will reports will still be issued after the Easter break. Academic grades will be awarded on work that has been submitted and students will receive feedback on effort and behaviour. Reports will be emailed after the Easter holidays.

Covid-19 Advice

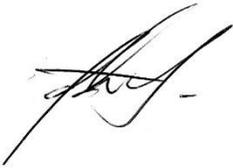
You are also encouraged to stay informed of the latest health developments relating to COVID-19 by regularly visiting the Queensland Health website: www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19

I realise these latest developments may create challenges for parents and caregivers, both in terms of disruption for students and for families who need to manage supervision of children at home. Please be assured that the decision has only been taken as a necessary response to the evolving COVID-19 situation.

The Department of Education will continue to keep all principals up-to-date with any further changes to schooling over the coming days and weeks and I will continue to provide parents with this information as it becomes available. Further information for parents, including Questions and Answers has been developed by the Department of Education and can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your understanding as we continue to work together to support and educate your children during this difficult and unprecedented time. Hoping you and all of your family stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Thornberry', with a horizontal line underneath.

John Thornberry
College Principal