

KEILOR DOWNS COLLEGE

'Progress Through Distinction'

Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Victoria, 3038 Telephone: 9365 8000 Facsimile: 9367 6490 E-mail: keilor.downs.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au Website: www.kdc.vic.edu.au

16th March 2020

Dear KDC Community,

In the next stage of battling the coronavirus, the Department of Education & Training (DET) has now advised schools to cancel all scheduled excursions, assemblies and events. They particularly want to avoid large numbers of community members coming in to schools and any events where several hundred people might gather.

Therefore, we are **cancelling** the **Awards Ceremony** on 18/3, the **Athletics Carnival** on 17/3 and **Parent Teacher Evening** on 23/3. All assemblies, excursions or camps scheduled for the next few weeks have been cancelled, as well as Open Night next term and school tours. One of the hardest hit events to be cancelled is the Year 10 Queensland Camp. We are currently investigating the financial situation and seeing how we can maximize refunds. Families directly involved will be receiving specific communication on this issue.

There are no reported cases of Coronavirus connected to our College at this time but we are in constant liaison with the Department of Education (DET). Like all government schools, we are running classes as usual until directed to close. If we get any confirmed cases of Coronavirus, we will voluntarily close down on a temporary basis. So far, there is no need for panic.

In the meantime, teachers are continuing to prepare and deliver curriculum in classes and most students are still attending school. If your child is sick or you are choosing that they stay home, please advise us by phone or through Compass. As usual, much of our curriculum is online and students know how to access this through the usual channels, such as Edmodo, Microsoft Teams or OneNote. Teachers will not be able to give individualized tuition to absent students but they can certainly stay in touch through our online systems. In the event that schools are closed by DET, we are preparing to move to the next phase of electronic communication and online curriculum.

As a community, we are seeking the support and cooperation of our parents and guardians to safeguard our College environment and, consequently, the health of our students and staff. If your child is sick with any of the following symptoms - high temperature, fatigue, respiratory illness, such as a running nose, cough or sore throat - please keep them home and get your child checked by a medical practitioner as soon as possible. Students can also help by practicing good hygiene by washing their hands regularly.

If you or your child have been overseas, or are planning to travel overseas, we would like you to inform us as soon as possible. As soon as you arrive from overseas, you must take proper precautions, including voluntarily quarantining yourselves for 14 consecutive days.

We thank all our parents and guardians in anticipation of their collaboration with our College community to protect the health of our students and staff.

This situation is evolving rapidly and we will try to communicate with you as soon as there is any significant new information.

Please look after each other and stay kind,

Girda Maxwell

Linda Maxwell Principal