

# HILLIARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

...because your child matters.

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ABN: 55 111 101 556

Friday, 20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

We are aware that many of you are feeling worried and unsure about the effects of the COVID-19 virus and this is entirely understandable. We are writing to provide you with an update about school during these challenging times.

## Health and Safety

We wish to assure you that the health and safety of students and staff is our absolute top priority. Our teachers are taking the time to encourage hygiene and to keep the classrooms disinfected.

In order to ensure that our leadership team is up-to-date with the latest information, we are working closely with our sister schools in Tasmania and Victoria, receiving a daily briefing and being involved in a weekly internet conference.

The situation is constantly changing and we will continue to seek the best expert advice that we can find. At a policy level, should the Government decide to close their schools, we will immediately follow suit.

Should we have a student or staff member diagnosed with the COVID-19 Coronavirus, we would immediately inform the parents, close the school and only reopen when we are given clearance to do so.

While we are doing our best to keep the school virus free, if you wish as parents to choose not to send your child, we respect that right.

And if your child is unwell, please keep them at home. This is especially true as we come into the flu season.

## Learning

Like you, your child's learning is important to us. We are in the process of putting into place contingency plans to provide opportunities to continue learning even if the school is forced to close.

As we anticipate that much of the information that we share will be electronic, we have attached a form to this to collect your mobile phone number and your best email contact. We will use this to update our records so that we can keep you informed.

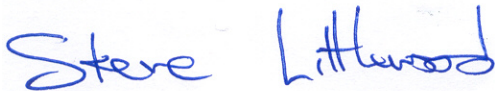
Within the Primary School, we will initially be providing a learning pack. Should the closure be for an extended time, updated material will be provided to you on email.

In the Secondary School, we will be providing information and classes to students using Google Classroom with students being able to participate in live learning sessions online using Google Meet. We are encouraging students in the High School to bring their device home every day.

We are planning to close for one day shortly to do both an extra clean for student and staff safety as well as give staff the opportunity to prepare work so that we are prepared for a closure, be it planned or unplanned. We will let you know when that will be.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the school, or myself. I can be reached easiest on email at [stephen.littlewood@hilliard.adventist.edu.au](mailto:stephen.littlewood@hilliard.adventist.edu.au).

Best wishes and stay safe. Please keep our school community in your prayers.



Stephen Littlewood  
PRINCIPAL

PS Additional information can be found at the following websites:

Department of Health: <http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/news/2020>

