



6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

**Re: Coronavirus Update**

I write to provide an update in relation to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.

This letter provides further information to the letter sent to parents earlier in the term but does not supersede it.

As you will be aware the spread of Coronavirus in Australia has continued and, as at the time of writing, there are now 52 confirmed cases in Australia.

The Australian Government has applied special restrictions for students or staff in schools and early childhood centres (including preschools) who have travelled from mainland China or Iran or been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus.

Specifically, as at the date of this letter, the following is to be noted in relation

Students or staff cannot attend school or early childcare centre if they have:

- Left, or transited through mainland China in the last 14 days (they must isolate themselves for 14 days from leaving mainland China)
- Left, or transited through Iran on or after 1 March (they must isolate themselves until 14 days after leaving Iran).
- Been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus in the last 14 days (they must isolate themselves for 14 days after the date of last contact with the confirmed case).

The relevant school or childcare centre should be notified.

Source: coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-schools-and-early-childhood-centres-students-and-parents\_2.pdf

The following links are provided for you to keep up to date with this issue and it is recommended you regularly do so while this virus remains prevalent.

- [https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/02/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-schools-and-early-childhood-centres-students-and-parents\\_2.pdf](https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/02/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-schools-and-early-childhood-centres-students-and-parents_2.pdf)
- <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-what-you-need-to-know>
- <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources>

The respective school leaders (Dubbo Christian School, Wellington Christian School and Dubbo Christian Preschool) have met to discuss our ongoing response to coronavirus and the following points are to be noted;

- Our schools receive regular, high quality advice from a range of peak bodies including the Australian Government Department of Health, NSW Health, NSW Educational Standards



Authority (NESA), AISNSW and the Department of Education. Information from all these sources has been timely, clear and consistent. We will continue to act on that advice.

- We have considered a broad plan should future action be taken by authorities that impacts our delivery of education e.g. forced school closure. Should that eventuate, we will comply with directions from any authorities and our broad plan will be further tailored to the specific conditions imposed.
- At this stage, all currently planned domestic and local excursions for 2020 will go ahead.

In summary, I encourage you to ensure you are aware of the conditions relating to instructions from the Department of Health, as outlined in the box in this document. You are required to notify the school if any of the three conditions apply in your context along with strict compliance to the requirements as published. I also encourage ongoing review of the websites listed above and follow advice as it is updated.

We want to work together in line with these requirements to provide a safe and healthy place for our whole community.

If you would like to discuss this further or have any questions, please feel free, as always, to contact me.

In Christ

Jo Blatch  
Principal