

1 May 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

RE: CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE

What a difference one week makes. It has been wonderful to see so many students returning to school this week eager to see friends and to get back to working with their teachers. While Monday did feel like a reunion of old friends, students have very quickly settled down to a strong learning routine with lots of excellent learning taking place. As the week has progressed, the number of students attending school has grown steadily to the point where we have around 60% of students learning at school and 40% learning at home.

On the basis of advice to parents from South Australia's Chief Public Health Officer, Professor Nicola Spurrier (please see the attached letter), the College would like to encourage parents and caregivers to send their children back to school if they have not already done so. We would also like to reassure parents that we are following the health advice to schools regarding personal hygiene and social distancing.

Given the number of students already attending school, and with the hope that more will return soon, we are planning to gradually transition from remote teaching mode to normal face to face teaching during the course of next week. As we understand that not everyone will be comfortable sending their children back to school yet, full face to face teaching will not recommence until Monday 11 May. If there are still children working at home after this date, teachers will do their best to provide set work but will not be able to connect with them as they have this week. Please make contact with your child's Head of School if there is a particular health situation that may prevent them from returning to school after 11 May.

In line with the health advice, please ensure that if your child is sick, they do not come to school. Please keep them at home. Please also remember to maintain physical distancing from teachers, other staff and parents when on the College's campus.

Whilst we understand that it has been a significant change to previous routines, Junior School parents are asked to continue dropping their children off at the Junior School gate or outside the College Library in the morning, and to collect them from the same spot in the afternoon. Staff will continue to be available at these locations to support students. Please do not go to your child's classroom. Many thanks for your help with this.

Once again, thank you for your incredible support over the last two months. Hopefully we will be able to return to normal schooling for all St Martins students very soon.

With warm regards,
Alan Connah
Principal