

Monday Principal's Update 2 – Re: Covid-19

23 March 2020

The Australian Government has raised its travel advice to Level 4 for all countries to “Do Not Travel” overseas. You can find updated travel information and advice on the [Smart Traveller](#) website.

The Australian Government also has announced the banning of organised indoor gatherings involving 100 people or more.

We understand that this is an extremely difficult time for our students and staff, and we are doing all that we can to support our community. We appreciate your continued vigilance in helping to minimise the spread of COVID-19.

Hygiene

At school our focus is on safe hygiene practices. To that end teachers have noticed at sport and on their recess duty last week that students are sharing their water bottles. Teachers have had to remind a few students not to share water bottles. Could I ask all parents to please encourage your children to bring their own water bottle to school and not share them?

Our school is open

The Department of Education based on advice from the Department of Health, has indicated that all government schools are to remain open; this is of course happening at Mosman High School. Teachers continue to prepare lessons and assessments for students in attendance.

If you choose to isolate your child at home, please be aware that lessons placed on Google classroom by teachers are in addition to the lesson preparation and teaching that they are doing for the students at school. Education Perfect is another learning platform the school provides to students and is also available in some subjects and will provide further support to students working online.

The NSW government has advised that parents may keep their child at home under supervision. If you make that choice please inform the school in writing (email is fine).

Thank you to all parents who have completed and forwarded to the school the permission note enabling your student(s) to leave the school if there is an identified student or staff member with Covid-19.

At Mosman High, there is no student or staff member who has identified with the virus.

Our webpage

The Mosman High webpage is a great source of information about schools and the virus. There is a yellow ribbon on the top of the page which links to three separate sources of information. I am also having the updates attached to the webpage.

NAPLAN cancelled

While it has been disappointing to cancel Akoosticum and postpone the Year 7 parent teacher night, I am sure there will be many students in Years 7 and 9 who will not be disappointed that NAPLAN has been postponed for 2020.

Regarding the Year 7 PT night. All appointments have been saved for when we will be able to hold the event again. Of course if the new date results in a change of circumstances for you; you will be able to change the appointment to a more suitable time.

A slight change to bell times for the senior years

We will be trialling staggered recess and lunch breaks from Monday 23 March. Years 7, 8 and 9 will have their lessons and recess and lunch the same as normal. That is no change for them.

For Years 10, 11 and 12 they will have periods 1, 3 and 5 at the same time as normal but periods 2 and 4 will be slightly different in that they will have a half hour break in the middle of the period.

Year 10 will have the same bell times as the juniors on Thursday so as not to disrupt sport.

New “Learning from Home” Hub

The Department has recently launched a “Learning from Home” Hub on the Departments website which provides information and resources for teachers and parents to support students learning from home. Teaching strategies and resources, learning sequences, student workbooks and materials are being regularly added to the site for students from Preschool to Year 12.

There is also a School Planning Section where there is helpful information around how to structure the day at home.

HSC students

UAC indicate they have had many questions about EAS and Covid-19. They state this situation is affecting all students and it seems that NESAs will put procedures in place in order to combat the disruptions to students’ study if needed. If the total Year 12 population shows weaker results, then university entry will reflect this, and no student will be disadvantaged.

Finally,

Be positive, be healthy and stay local 😊

Susan Wyatt
Principal
Mosman High School