



March 2020

PARENT INFORMATION REGARDING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Dear Parents and Carers

The safety and wellbeing of students and staff is a prime consideration in the day to day operations of the College. We are currently monitoring the health alerts that are provided by the Australian Federal Government Department of Health, NSW Department of Health and Education, Catholic Schools NSW and Edmund Rice Education Australia in relation to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). As noted recently, there have been cases of Coronavirus reported across some Sydney schools in the past few days. This highlights the need for St Edward's to communicate necessary information and actions required to protect school students and community. It is important that we remain vigilant in monitoring the situation within our community and we rely on parents assisting us in this endeavour. The information contained in this correspondence is not intended to alarm members of the community, but to be advised on our approach to managing this unprecedented situation.

We have been advised by Catholic Schools NSW that the impact of the virus on children and healthy adults can be quite mild and therefore a tendency may exist for adults to continue working and students to attend school increasing the risk of infecting others. The advice therefore is that schools take a strong stance on sending home staff and students who have symptoms of illness. Information regarding the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and basic protective measures are available at [World Health Organisation Website](#).

To assist the College, we ask parents to monitor their son's and immediate family health. If concerns arise please keep your son home from school and seek medical advice. Teachers have been asked to monitor, not only themselves, but students in their classes and if a student presents at school unwell, that appropriate staff are informed so that parents can be contacted. This approach is precautionary in nature and not intended to alarm members of the community. There are no reported cases of Coronavirus currently in the school or wider Central Coast community at this moment.

The Australian Government publishes daily alerts with the latest medical advice and official reports. These alerts can be accessed via the [Australian Government Health Alert](#).

Further information will be forwarded to parents regarding COVID-19 and planned overseas holidays over the coming days, as we approach the end of term break.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 4321 6400, if you have any questions or would like to discuss the information outlined in this letter.

Your sincerely

Mark Bonnici
College Principal