



## ROUSE HILL ANGLICAN COLLEGE

PO Box 3296, Rouse Hill NSW 2155  
Cnr Rouse & Worcester Roads, Rouse Hill NSW 2155

T 02 8824 5844 F 02 8824 5877  
E [info@rhac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@rhac.nsw.edu.au) W [www.rhac.nsw.edu.au](http://www.rhac.nsw.edu.au)

9 March, 2020

Dear Parents,

The outbreak and rapid spread of the Coronavirus across the world is a concern for our community at this time. The media and news continues to bombard us with information that can be reactionary, inconsistent and quite confusing. Therefore, as a College, we will endeavour to provide information related to the schooling of your children with clarity and in a helpful manner.

I would like to assure families that we continue to monitor this situation closely and that we are looking to adjust our practices as needed, to prioritise the safety of our students and the wider school community.

### Ongoing Travel restrictions

Students and staff are not to attend school 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, Italy or South Korea on or after 1 March (they must isolate themselves until 14 days after leaving these countries);
- been in 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).

If this need for isolation affects your child, you should notify the College immediately so that we can make arrangements for their learning during this time. Please also ensure that if you or another one of your child carers (or people living in your house) has been travelling overseas or has been in contact with a case of Coronavirus, they should not be visiting the school for any event including drop-off and pick-up at the start or finish of the day.

### Illness and display of symptoms

In the event that your child or a family member is diagnosed with Coronavirus, please inform the College immediately [info@rhac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@rhac.nsw.edu.au)

Consistent with current guidelines, students and staff who are unwell with respiratory (or other) illnesses should remain at home until symptoms resolve. In accordance with our current practice, if any student becomes unwell, they will be checked by our College Nurse. We will implement our infection control guidelines and follow any advice provided by the NSW Ministry of Health.

Do not send your child to the College should they exhibit a fever. Do not dose your child with Panadol and/or Nurofen prior to coming to the College. Whilst it may be inconvenient for working parents to have your child at home, masking a child's fever with a morning dose of Panadol is dangerous and selfish, as this compromises the health of the entire College.

If you are concerned about your child's health, please consult your GP. If your child has an ongoing immuno-compromised condition, please contact our College Nurse immediately to discuss any revisions to his/her health plan. [info@rhac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@rhac.nsw.edu.au)

### Excursions

All excursions will be assessed on a case by case basis evaluating the venue, crowds and travel arrangements. At this stage, the Year Six excursion to Canberra will continue as planned as well as the Year Seven to Ten Camps.

### Overseas Service Trips

The College Overseas Service Trip during the next holidays will be cancelled. This is disappointing for our students who had planned to visit Philippines. We are looking to reschedule these opportunities for our students once the risk has passed. The Vietnam trip later in the year is being closely monitored and we will continue to take advice.

UNDERSTANDING THROUGH CHRIST

### **College Events**

At this point in time, our 'Grandparents' Day' will go ahead as planned for Tuesday 31 March. Given that the elderly are particularly susceptible to coronavirus, a level of caution is required on the part of all visitors in determining whether they will attend. Given the rapid escalation of the spread of the virus in Sydney, the cancellation of this event may ultimately be required, and we ask for your understanding should this be the case.

It is also expected that the P & F Junior School Disco will continue as planned on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Possible Temporary Closure of the College**

Given decisions imposed on three Sydney schools over the past few days, we need to be prepared for possible closure at RHAC. We will follow the direction of government authorities should we be directed to close. The College leadership team is working with a 'Continuity Plan' which will be implemented should closure be required. The key priorities within this plan include:

- provision of on-line learning through See-Saw, Canvas, Apps, email and other online tools.
- If your child/ren are to be at home for an extended period of time, parents are encouraged to test online safety settings and net filtering security of home computers and devices. The school will not take responsibility for this.
- endeavouring to support student wellbeing providing emotional support and school connections as much as possible
- regular communication by the school, and if possible with communication access to teaching and other staff for students and parents
- developing a sense of belonging, connection and support for the children and College community. We are determined that our College community can, and will, remain strong together.

Please note that this situation is unprecedented, so the College's response and specific actions will be determined by time, context, the health and availability of staff, our access to resources and IT support, and therefore cannot be guaranteed.

### **How we will communicate with you**

In the event of closure, a detailed Communication Plan will be emailed to all parents. In the meantime, necessary Coronavirus updates will continue as normal via;

- Rouse Hill Anglican College App alerts
- Updates provided on the College website homepage
- Email and/or SMS to parents

Please support us by ensuring that you have now have access to the above **and** that your personal contact details are always up to date on your Parent Portal. Please contact our IT Department immediately should you not be able to access your parent portal page [helpdesk@rhac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:helpdesk@rhac.nsw.edu.au)

### **As a Christian community, we remember wisdom from the Bible:**

*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phillipians 4:6-7*

We will seek to continue to provide updates to our community as the Covid-19 situation continues to evolve.

Kind regards,

Peter Fowler  
**Principal**