



Monday 16 March, 2020

Dear RHAC Community,

In what is now becoming a regular communications update, I am providing you with further updates with the plans that we have at the College in response to the continuing COVID-19 situation which is dominating news across the world.

As a College, we are continuing to carefully monitor the situation, with regular reviews of upcoming events and risk assessments. Having said this, given announcements from government over the weekend, we have further reviewed our events and have made determinations about cancelling some activities, postponing others and allowing others to continue, sometimes with modifications to minimise risk.

Of particular note, we have decided to postpone larger cohort events that are coming up over the remainder of the term. This includes Camps for Year Six to Year Ten, Junior School Disco as well as Grandparent's Day. We ask parents to contact grandparents who were making arrangements to attend on 31st March. We are currently looking to find alternate dates for each of these programs along with a number of other programs listed on the final page of this letter.

In the meantime, we have been assured by the NSW Department of Health that it is appropriate for us to continue to operate schools as the risk of outbreak within a school has been generally deemed as low. At this point in time, they have advised that they will only close any school for a short period of time if an identified case of COVID-19 has occurred within that school environment.

The College will be placing a number of further controls in place in order to minimise risk:

Improve / promote good hygiene practices

- ▶ Enforce stay home if you are sick policy. Parents will be called to collect children from school if they are unwell. **Please do not send children to school if they are not well.**
- ▶ Reinforce hand hygiene; regular hand hygiene routines throughout day (using soap). Student bathrooms are being checked daily for soap supplies. Additional soap is provided in Reception Areas and many classrooms that have hand basins.
- ▶ Enhanced frequency and cleaning for high touch surfaces. Our cleaners have advised that they have already commenced this methodology in their cleaning at the College.

Enforce social distancing

- ▶ Assemblies and Chapel Services with larger groups will be modified for smaller gatherings.
- ▶ Most excursions have been cancelled which involve visits to places where there are other groups, mass gatherings, extended travel, etc.
- ▶ Our sporting events have either been modified or cancelled and inter-school events have been postponed or cancelled.

- ▶ We encourage College families and community members to cancel/defer non-essential overseas travel.
- ▶ Enforced home isolation for recent returned travellers from high risk countries. Home isolation of this type should mean that the person who has returned from travel minimises contact with other members of the household by isolating as much as possible to one room, thus allowing other members of the household to continue their daily activities.

The three most important things each and every one of us can do to help manage the spread of the virus are:

- ▶ Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly with soap and water
- ▶ Sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. Dispose of the tissue straight away, then wash your hands
- ▶ Stay home if you are unwell

Student assessments at the College will continue as scheduled.

Given that decisions from government authorities are fluid at this time, we are continuing to prepare for a scenario of a shutdown of the College should this be required at some time in the future. Staff are preparing to put in place plans for continued learning through online platforms.

We thank you for your attention to the contents of this communication and pray that our community will continue to maintain a positive, measured and well-considered approach to our response to the COVID-19 crisis.

With kind regards,

Peter Fowler
Principal

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." [Colossians 3:12](#)

- **Please see next page for a full summary of event modifications for the remainder of Term One**

Event Modifications for the Remainder of Term One

Date	Activity	Location	Update
16,17/3	Year 11 SLR Camp	Somerset	As Normal
16/3	HSC Encore Performance	City Recital Hall	Cancelled
17/3	HZSA Representative Trial Day	Hills Grammar	Cancelled
17/3	Cyber Safety Talk	RHAC-TLC	Postponed
18/3	Pre-K 2021 Information Session	RHAC-AUD	Postponed
18/3 Weds	K, Two, Four and Six Gymnastics	RHAC-AUD	As Normal
19/3	Defence Force Information Session	RHAC-E3	As Normal
19/3	UTS Maths Matter Excursion	UTS Broadway	Cancelled
19/3	Harmony Day	RHAC-Classrooms	As Normal
20/3	P&F Junior School Disco	RHAC-AUD	Postponed
23/3-4/3	Year Three Swimming School		Postponed
24/3-25/3	Early Stage One Pastoral Care Interviews	RHAC	Postponed
25/3	Max Potential	Woolworths Norwest	Parent Decision
25/3	Year Six Camp	Canberra	Postponed
26/3	Chapel Band Workshop	RHAC - Music Space	Postponed
27/3	Art Express Excursion	Art Gallery of NSW	Cancelled
27/3	Girls on Track	Eastern Creek Raceway	Cancelled
30/3	AICES Swimming Carnival	Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre	Cancelled
30/3	Junior School HICES Debating	William Clarke College	Cancelled
30/3	Senior School HICES Debating	William Clarke College	Cancelled
31/3-3/4	Year Seven Camp	Youthworks Deer Park	Postponed
31/3-3/4	Year Eight Camp	Youthworks Waterslea	Postponed
31/3-3/4	Year Nine Camp	Youthworks Rathane	Postponed
31/3-3/4	Year Ten Camp	Bangarra Apline Centre Jindabyne	Postponed
31/3-3/4	Year 11-12 Assessment Week	RHAC	Normal Classes with modifications
31/3	Grandparents Day	RHAC-AUD	Postponed
1/4	Stage Three Think Tank	Pacific Hills Christian School	Postponed
1/4	Stage Two Think Tank	Hills Grammar	Postponed
1/4	Stage One Think Tank	Tangara School for Girls	Postponed
2/4	InitialLit Kindergarten Information	RHAC-TLC	Postponed
7/4	Year 12 Geography Excursion	Barangaroo	Postponed
8/4	Senior School Cross Country	RHAC-Oval	Modified
9/4	Easter Service	RHAC-AUD	Cancelled