



## *From the Principal*

13 March 2020

### **Update 6 - COVID-19 Risk Management Plan**

Dear parents and caregivers,

I am writing to you with a further update regarding COVID-19 and the College's response.

The College continues to consider current advice and directives from educational authorities, the State government, and Queensland Health to implement a risk management plan specific to COVID-19.

With community health at the centre of our decision-making, I would like to draw your attention to the specific following actions that the College will be required to take should a COVID-19 case be identified within our school community:

- If a case is identified at Nudgee College, we will work closely with relevant authorities, including Queensland Health, in managing our response.
- If a confirmed case at Nudgee College, it is possible the school may need to close for a period of time to allow Queensland Health to assess the situation and to perform contact tracing to identify people, staff and students who may have come into contact with the COVID-19 case.
- If the school is required to close for a period of time, boarding staff will work with boarding students and their families to assist them returning home, or into the care of friends and family. However, it is our intention at this stage, that the boarding house will remain open to care for any boys who are unable to travel home.
- This closure of campus would extend to all on-site activities and services (ie. Bingo, Swimming, Tennis, Athletics) and further details would be released at such time.
- Should a closure occur, the College will take this time to action specialised cleaning of our facilities to ensure the campus is safe for students and staff to return when clearance is given.

It is now necessary that I request overseas travel details from all students and families who will be travelling internationally during the Easter school holidays. The list of countries at highest risk is changing on a daily basis and I direct you to [smarttraveller.gov.au](https://www.smarttraveller.gov.au) for the latest information. Please be aware that overseas travel to listed countries may mean that your son's return date to school for Term 2 is extended by 14 days. Please email travel details to [mytravel@nudgee.qld.edu.au](mailto:mytravel@nudgee.qld.edu.au) or contact the College office on 07 3865 0555.

Continuity of learning and teaching is of utmost importance to the College and we have options available to facilitate online learning to support your son's school work. The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) also has procedures in place to support senior secondary students.

I, again, bring to your attention the following. If your child develops flu-like symptoms, please:

- keep your son at home;
- avoid close contact with others such as touching, kissing or hugging, or any mass gatherings, especially those involving other children;
- see a doctor or contact 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) immediately;
- seek medical advice if your son has other underlying medical conditions; and
- call ahead to the medical centre or doctor's surgery, advising of your son's symptoms.

At the College we continue to reiterate messages regarding hygiene and it is also important to encourage your son to:

- wash his hands regularly with soap and water, particularly before and after eating, and after going to the toilet;
- use alcohol-based hand sanitiser if soap is unavailable;
- cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of their elbow; and
- dispose of tissues in the bin immediately.

Further advice and information about COVID-19 is available on the [Queensland Health website](#).

As a community, during this preparation phase, it may also be timely for families to consider their own family and care arrangements should school closure be necessary.

There is understandably some worry amongst our students so we will continue to take a calm and considered approach to the management and planning of our response. This includes regular communication with the community. For the time being, I will continue to circulate weekly updates on a Friday unless our situation changes.

The College is in the fortunate position of having access to a well-resourced Health Centre, including a fully-functioning isolation ward. In addition, we have clear protocols and highly qualified nursing staff who are experienced in dealing with infectious diseases.

As a Catholic community we also keep in our thoughts and prayers all those individuals and families affected by this serious health situation.

I thank you for your ongoing support in managing this unfolding situation and aiding student awareness of the additional need for strong health and hygiene practices.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Fullagar', with a stylized, cursive script.

Peter Fullagar  
Principal