



St Mark's

ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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A School of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc.

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Dear Parents and Carers

At the beginning of Term 2, St Mark's, and other ASC schools, commenced in distance learning mode and undertook to do this for the first three weeks of term before reviewing that plan; however, all students had the opportunity to return to classrooms. Since the commencement of Term 2, the on-campus attendance of our students has grown steadily. In Kindy and Pre-Primary, and in Year 11 and 12, attendance in class was very high very quickly and teachers switched to face to face teaching and learning mode very early in the term. Last week, Junior School classes switched to face to face learning while providing learning packages for those who remained at home.

Today, student attendance across the whole school jumped markedly, and is more than 85%, K-12. With that strong level of attendance, I have made the decision to switch to face to face learning as a whole school before the planned review period during Week 3 concludes. This mode of teaching and learning will commence on Wednesday 13 May. Students remaining at home from this time will be able to access work from their teachers but will work through it independently. This work will be provided through various means such as SEQTA, Teams, OneNote, SeeSaw, and take-home packs, as determined by individual teachers.

On Sunday 10 May, the WA Premier announced plans to cautiously relax restrictions that were implemented to slow or stop the transmission of COVID-19 amongst Western Australian people. At the time of writing, no new cases of COVID-19 in Western Australia had been reported on 10 of the last 11 days. Western Australian people have done an excellent job of taking personal responsibility for looking after their own health, and the health of others.

St Mark's will continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with caution. From the start of Term 2, increased hygiene measures have been implemented and are ongoing. These include:

- A groundsman is tasked with disinfecting the playgrounds and table tennis equipment.
- A maintenance staff member is tasked with disinfecting door handles, push plates, door frames and handrails.
- Additional cleaners are tasked with cleaning bathrooms, staff rooms, and common area benches, and replenishing dispensers. A cleaner is specifically allocated to the ELC building for the full period and is constantly cleaning surfaces and the bathrooms. The full cleaning service after school hours continues in its usual capacity.
- Protocols developed by the Department of Education are being followed.
- Under the supervision of staff, students are spraying their desks with disinfectant at the end of each lesson.
- Hand sanitiser has been provided in each classroom.
- Sports equipment is disinfected by PE staff at the end of lessons.
- Music teachers are managing the process of disinfecting instruments with the students at the end of each lesson.

St Mark's has adopted the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) advice that good hygiene practice is:

- Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or using hand sanitiser, when entering school, and at regular intervals throughout the day.
 - Particularly before and after eating, and after going to the toilet.
 - For younger students, this may include having a regular handwashing schedule.
- Covering coughs and sneezes with one's elbow or a tissue.
- Placing used tissues straight into the bin.
- Avoiding touching one's eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Not sharing food or drink, and
- Using a personal water bottle (water 'bubblers' are closed).

We have continued to require of our staff and students social distancing from others, and adjusted our structures, procedures, and processes to enable this, as much as possible. The restriction of parents from being on campus remains in place, and I thank you for managing the drop off and pick up of your children so well.

The Heads of School will communicate further with families regarding arrangements for uniform and other more detailed matters pertaining to your child/ren.

Social distancing between adults requires that we still have limited opening times at our Uniform Shop. Trading will continue on Monday and Wednesday, from 4.00pm to 8.00pm, until further notice.

Your support of the School, our teachers, and your children throughout the implementation of our Distance Learning Plan and now our transition back to face to face learning has been greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to seeing all our students back in classes with their teachers soon.

Yours sincerely



Steven Davies
Principal