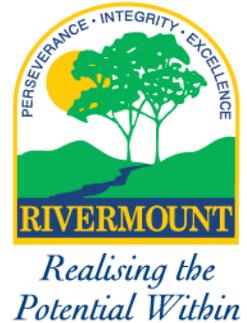


Rivermount College



6 May 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The Queensland Government has provided schools with an update on the COVID-19 pandemic that highlights a positive flattening of the curve of coronavirus spread. This development has been a result of strict community measures taken in past weeks. As a result, Queensland is now experiencing very low rates of infection and the recent easing of restrictions has prompted the Department of Education to begin the transition of students from remote learning back to on campus learning.

Stage One of this transition will see students in Prep, Year 1, Year 11 and Year 12 return to campus on Monday 11 May 2020. These year levels will cease remote learning and recommence normal classes. Expectations regarding student presentation, attendance, uniform and timetable structure will apply. The Chief Health Officer, Dr Jeannette Young PSM, provided the following statement to parents and caregivers:

Significant consideration has been given to the first stage of resumption. We want to give all our children a great start to life, and this must include access to early years education. I am confident that the hygiene habits young Queenslanders are learning at home with your help will be reinforced in the educational setting. The senior secondary years of grade 11 and 12 are also important, and I believe that as our senior students transition to adulthood, they are old enough to understand and recognise the need for good health and hygiene and that if they are unwell, they should stay home.

As a school community, we welcome the return of students to the College campus and support the Government's initiative wholeheartedly. It is the aim of the Queensland Government to closely monitor the return of students in the essential early years of learning and critical senior years, with a planned return for all other year levels by Monday 25 May 2020.

In the interim, the College will continue to provide on-campus supervision to students of essential workers and vulnerable students. These students, if not in Prep, Year 1 and Years 11 and 12, will continue to learn using the remote model. All students learning on campus are required to adhere to correct student personal appearance and uniform policies. A reminder that winter uniform is now required. The College Retail Centre is open as per normal trading hours to accommodate families.

As parents return to their workplaces, we appreciate that more students will need to be in attendance and require supervision at the College to undertake their remote learning. I urge parents of students struggling with the current remote learning model at home to contact their relevant Head of School to discuss options for return to school prior to Monday 25 May.

In readiness for all students returning to campus, the following practices will be implemented by the College:

- Activities such as assemblies, camps, excursions, interschool activities, sporting and performing arts events will not be allowed to take place at this time. The situation will continually be reviewed to determine when it will be safe to recommence these additional activities. With this directive, the College has made the decision to cancel the school musical production for 2020.
- Students on campus will be directed to practice safe hygiene including the washing of hands and use of alcohol-based sanitiser.
- Students that are unwell are asked to stay home and notify the College of absence via the Student Welfare email or phone number. Students on campus that are displaying any signs of illness will be sent home.
- Social distancing will continue to apply. This practice will be implemented for all students, staff and any visitors to the College. Parents are reminded that gathering in groups outside classrooms, on campus grounds, including carparks is not permitted.
- Use of the drop and go facility is essential to ensure social distancing and the gathering of groups is eliminated on campus.
- Cleaning of the College, including classrooms, playgrounds and all facilities will continue to be a priority.

Any parents or caregivers that have concerns regarding the staggered return to campus of students are encouraged to contact the College. In the unlikely event that an outbreak of COVID-19 occurs at the College, be assured that Queensland Health has the ability to respond rapidly and thoroughly to limit any transmission. I am confident that with these measures in place we will see all students return to normal classes and learning shortly.

Once again, I express my acknowledgement of the tremendous effort that families and staff have undertaken in supporting the education of our students at this time.

Yours sincerely



Richard Young
Principal