

31 August, 2020

Main points

- *Return date for onsite learning remains undecided*
- *Wellbeing survey and support links*
- *Individual Learning and Wellbeing Day*

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and managing the challenges of these times under Stage 3 restrictions. This letter is to provide an update on remote learning although there is no definite date for a return to onsite learning at this stage.

Stage 3 restrictions are in force until Sunday 13 September. This is one week before the start of the holidays.

Last week James Merlino, Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, commented that we would be returning to onsite learning at some stage in Term 4.

However, we have received no official notification as to when we will return and there is no known date for an announcement. What we do know is that there are three weeks of this Term remaining. Two weeks will be remote learning and the final week is still to be determined. We are preparing to teach up until the end of Term whether this is remotely or onsite.

Dealing with this uncertainty is something we have had to get used to. But it is not necessarily getting any easier. We have heard the phrase, 'we are all in this together' but not everyone will be coping in the same way. This week all students from Year 7-12 will be asked to complete a wellbeing survey through AWE (Assessing Wellbeing in Education). This is requested of all students at the end of Term 1 and Term 3 each year but carries extra importance this year as we continue to monitor the wellbeing of students during this period of remote learning. Our Year Level Coordinators, Counsellors, Mentor Group Teachers and staff are all supporting our girls in many ways and I would urge any parents/carers that have concerns to contact their daughter's Mentor Group Teacher or Year Level Coordinator.

The following links are provided by the DHHS (Department of Health and Human Services) for youth focused mental health and support services:

- **Headspace** - Call Headspace on 1800 650 890 or online at www.headspace.org.au
- **Kids Helpline** - Call 1800 55 1800 or kidshelpline.com.au
- **ReachOut** - Online at reachout.com.au
- **SANE Australia** - Call 1800 187 263 or online at sane.org
- **Orygen Digital** - Call 1800 888 320 or online at [Moderated Online Social Therapy platform](#)

Towards the end of the first remote learning period, we noted that many students lost motivation and attendance was down. To address some of these issues we have made Wednesday 9 September a Student Free Day. This day is an Individual Learning and Wellbeing Day. Some students may need this day to catch up on work and others may use it as a wellbeing day to help them deal with the fatigue that they are experiencing in this second lockdown period.

We look forward to providing more information when it is available about our return to onsite learning. In the meantime, stay safe and stay connected.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Brodrick".

Michelle Brodrick
Principal