



# Fairholme College

## TOOWOOMBA

COVID-19 UPDATE

16 March 2020

Dear Parent/s

This is a difficult time for all members of our community as we consider best approaches in relation to Coronavirus (COVID – 19). Like you, we are working with a plethora of information regarding its management, and, at the heart of this, we are conscious of our role in supporting our own health, and particularly the health of any immune-compromised members of this community and beyond. The directives from Government are clear:

1. Personal Hygiene, particularly in relation to the washing of hands is of paramount importance. Similarly sharing water bottles and lip gloss is considered unsafe.
2. Mass gatherings (500+) should be cancelled or postponed (including School Assemblies).
3. Non-essential gatherings should be re-considered in light of hygiene and social distancing requirements.
4. Visitors to the school should be restricted to support the practice of social distancing to reduce potential exposure to COVID-19 or other illnesses.
5. If travelling internationally, all people arriving back in Australia are required to self-isolate for 14 days – irrespective of destination.

Further to this, we require that any student or staff member with flu-like symptoms and in particular a fever, not attend school. **We will require anyone with a fever to be collected from the College.** Of course, we understand the complexities involved should this be a member of our boarding community and we will work with families to manage such a situation.

At this time, we continue to review all activities within the College and consider risk. Additionally, we are readying for any potential school closure be it short or longer and ensuring continuity of teaching and learning, albeit under very different classroom conditions. We will make necessary adjustments to assessment if required, and, for senior students we will be working closely with the Queensland Curriculum Assessment Authority (QCAA).

To avoid an overload of email traffic we are setting up a dedicated section on our website where all COVID-19 communicate and information will be housed. Fairholme Communications will advise, via the app, when a new update has been posted.

In the interim, we continue to sensibly monitor activities, enact Health Department advice and follow our classroom curriculum. Decisions will be made based upon latest information, in conjunction with Health specialists, and with the health and wellbeing of our community, paramount. They may happen quickly and we appreciate your flexibility through these changes.

Thank you for your support and patience in such unpredictable and uncharted times. For now, we seek to follow regular routines as much as is practicable, and enjoy teaching and learning with your daughters.

Kind regards

*Linda Evans*

Dr Linda Evans | Principal