23 March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

**RE: COVID-19 Potential School Closure**

Consistent with the announcement by the Prime Minister of Australia yesterday evening, The King’s College anticipates that school will continue to operate as usual. That is, schools are considered safe for student attendance and, therefore, the College is NOT closed. If this position changes in this rapidly evolving situation, you will be immediately notified. Having said that, it is advisable for families to continue making advance preparations should the school be required to move to College Online Offsite Learning (COOL).

The College will move to temporary COOL in the following circumstances only:

- the College is directed to close based on Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC) advice (this body advises the government regarding schooling); or
- government schools close; or
- the College needs to close in order to meet the necessary requirements for staff and student health.

In the event of COOL, the College will continue to provide education; however, it will be delivered outside the usual onsite classroom environment. Please be assured that the College is well advanced in its planning for this eventuality and all possible contingencies. Further, as previously communicated, the College is very well placed to ensure the relatively undisrupted provision of teaching and learning through the SEQTA platform and the many online options that will be utilised from this central hub.

Many families have chosen to keep their children at home and are benefitting from what SEQTA provides in terms of easy access to lesson information and resources. Primary school families can access SEQTA Engage to view what work their child should complete. Secondary school families can do the same, with the added access to SEQTA Learn for students.
Having said that, if there is a movement to COOL, the College will continue to maintain a level of staff on grounds as is required for the support of students in certain groups, including the children of those working in essential services (e.g. front-line medical workers). The government will likely provide guidelines as to which students may or may not still attend grounds. If you feel that you are likely to fit into one of the categories of people whose children would still attend school in the event of a closure and would not be able to provide care for your child, for the purpose of information gathering, please contact Ms Joanne Housego, PA to the Principal, on joh@tkc.wa.edu.au citing the reason.

Please be encouraged to regularly check the items in the specialised COVID-19 tab on the College website, which will keep you well informed. Further, can you please encourage any families who have not yet registered with SEQTA and Consent2Go to do so as soon as possible, as these platforms will allow the maintenance of students’ access to ongoing teaching and learning? If anyone encounters difficulties in registering with either of these platforms, they are encouraged to contact College Reception to organise assistance being provided.

Please remember to remain vigilant at home in practising and training your children in appropriate hygienic practices. While onsite, the students continue to be monitored and taught regarding these vital practices, which will be significant in protecting the College community from the virus and contributing to reducing the spread through our wonderful city.

Thank you for your support, it is greatly appreciated. Please know that we will keep you informed should the current situation change.

Kind regards,

Mr Orlando dos Santos
Principal