

Mossman State High School

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5th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

The Premier has announced that from Monday 11 May, 2020, students in Year 11 and Year 12 will be able to return to their school.

Children of essential workers and vulnerable children will continue to be able to attend school for supervision. If you have other circumstances that mean you would like your child to attend school, please contact us to discuss this.

For students in Years 7 – 10, the current home-based learning arrangements will remain in place. If low COVID-19 transmission rates continue, students in Years 7 – 10 will be able to return to school from **Monday** 25 May, 2020. Confirmation of this step will be made by 15 May 2020.

It is recognised that some parents may choose to keep your child at home due to concerns about COVID-19 and this is respected. If parents choose to do this, I ask that you notify the school to discuss how we can support you as you continue to home school your child.

Frequently asked questions are available to assist you understand how schools will be implementing the transition back to school-based learning. This includes hygiene practices such as effective hand hygiene, cough and sneeze etiquette, restricting visitors to the school and reminding you to notify our school if your child will not attend.

I ask parents and carers to pay particular attention to the requirement for adults to maintain physical distancing of 1.5m at all times if you need to be on school grounds.

It is essential that you keep your child home from school if they are unwell. In accordance with Queensland Health Directions parents or carers of any child showing signs of illness will be asked to collect them immediately from the school.

If your child is in Years 7 – 10, their teacher will continue to deliver prepared lessons and materials via homebased learning, as they have over the last two weeks. Additional resources are also available at The Learning <u>Place</u> and <u>learning@home</u> website, which includes details about <u>Learning@Home TV</u> programs.

It is recognised that some parents of Year 11 and Year 12 students may still wish to keep their children home from school due to concerns about COVID-19. This is an acceptable decision and your child won't be marked as being absent, rather that they are learning from home. It is important for parents to advise the school of student absence as you would normally do, and discuss any support you may need.

In these cases parents and carers remain responsible for their children. This includes ensuring their children stay at home and continue their learning using the material and websites that can be accessed on the learning@home website (gld.gov.au/learningathome).

The decision to return Year 11 and Year 12 back to school is an important next step towards returning to our regular school routines and I will continue to update you as soon as any new information becomes available.

Our staff have greatly appreciated all the positive feedback that has been provided to them over the last few weeks. My sincere thanks goes to all parents and carers for your support and understanding during these challenging times.

Regards

Michelle Lyons

Principal