
Macquarie College COVID-19 Update 10 ~ 20 March

1 message

seqta@mc.nsw.edu.au <seqta@mc.nsw.edu.au>
Reply-To: "ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au" <ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au>
To: "ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au" <ajackson@mc.nsw.edu.au>

20 March 2020 at 15:43



Good afternoon Parents and Carers,

Below is a further update from Macquarie College in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Macquarie College Community

It is often said that character is revealed under pressure. If that is the case, then it has never been more true than over the past week at Macquarie College as our teachers have collectively contributed to maintaining a sense of purpose and calm in what has otherwise been an environment of significant pressure and disruption. Our teachers have, over the past week, begun the highly-complex process of moving the learning they deliver from a physical classroom setting to the new MC Cloud program. And while students who continue to physically attend Macquarie College will now experience a much higher usage of technology, given the need to mirror lessons, whether they occur either onsite or via MC Cloud, for our teachers this shift in practice has represented a massive change process implemented in a very short time frame. The extra hours of work along with untold amounts of effort by our teachers to make this continuity of learning possible for our students should not go unrecognised. Thank you to our

teachers, Assistant and Deputy Principals, without whose efforts MC Cloud would not be possible!

Without question, our broader team of staff, with specific roles and contributions too long to mention here, are also working above and beyond the norm to make school possible at this time. Their collective efforts in thinking creatively, adapting to change and working beyond expectations, have all contributed to maintaining something approaching normality for our students.

You can be proud of your team of staff at MC, I know that I certainly am!

Finally, thank you to our parents, carers and broader community members who continue to send short messages of appreciation and support to our school. Your support at this time is both welcomed and deeply appreciated by all the team at Macquarie College.

While the coming days, weeks and months may continue to present us with challenges perhaps not previously imagined, by continuing to care and support each other throughout our MC community, we can get through this.

MC Cloud Update

Teachers have been working hard to be ready for the start of our MC Cloud program from next Monday 23 March for Senior School, Tuesday 24 March for Junior School. We appreciate those parents who have indicated that they will be taking up the MC Cloud program for their children ([registration link is here](#)).

I would like to provide some clarity regarding involvement in the program - and that is - you can opt in as you choose. We recognise that this is a challenging time for families, and your needs may vary from day to day. The form is not required for your child to participate, and you are also welcome to send your child to school - even if you have completed the form. The form is to help us with logistics, but we will work with whatever your needs are on the day regarding involvement.

Finally - we are also aware of the challenges that managing MC Cloud from home may be.

Please keep in mind that teachers will be delivering a learning program onsite, as well as via MC

Cloud, but we are realistic about the different home situations. We understand that not all families will be able to have their children complete all tasks, and we will work with you to manage this situation as we all do the best we can. We encourage parents and carers not to feel overwhelmed, but simply have your child engaged in the MC Cloud program as is appropriate in your family setting.

The templates attached [here](#) are designed as a guide for parents and students to ensure ease of access to the MC Cloud program.

eSmart Support and Resources for Families

The eSafety Commissioner has released a collection of their top online safety tips and resources to support parents during the COVID-19 outbreak. These resources can be accessed via the link below:

- [COVID-19: an online survival kit parents and carers](#)

NAPLAN Cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19

Following a meeting of education ministers today, the 2020 NAPLAN tests having now been cancelled. At one level, this is a disappointing outcome for our students and staff who have been preparing for these tests. However, given the circumstances, this will now create further clarity over the next weeks as we seek to continue to provide high-quality learning and wellbeing support to our students.

Macquarie College will continue to monitor the current Government advice in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak and provide further updates on a needs basis as applicable to our community.

Kind regards,

Rohan Deanshaw

Principal

Macquarie College
(02) 4954 6222 | [Website](#) | [Facebook](#)
182-222 Lake Road (PO Box 517), Wallsend NSW 2287



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