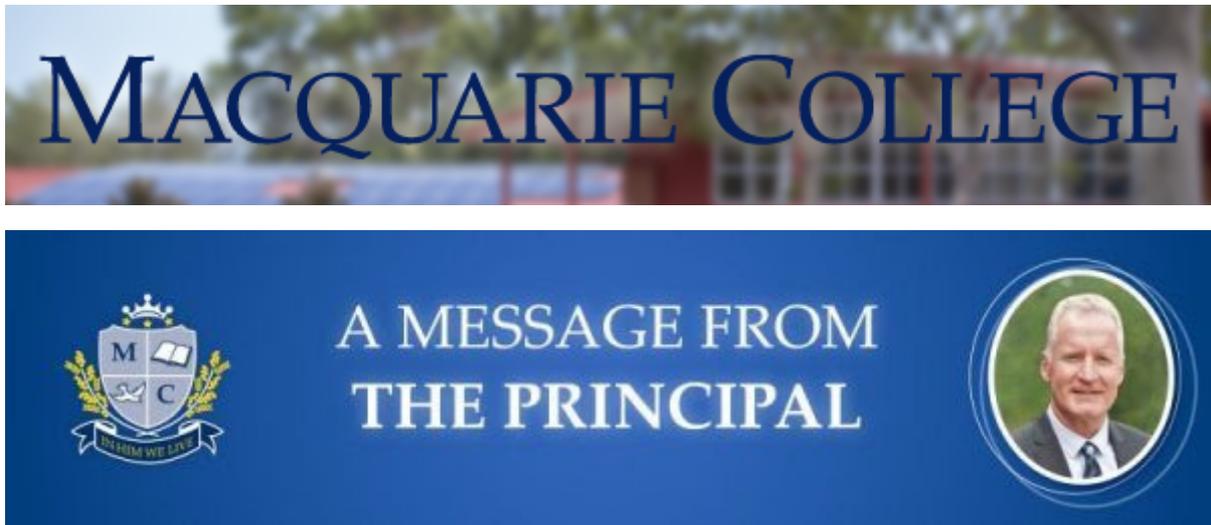

Macquarie College COVID 19 Update 7 - 17 March

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>

17 March 2020 at 16:42



Good afternoon Parents and Carers,

Below is a further update regarding the Macquarie College response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Continuation of Daily College Programs

While much has been written to date regarding the potential for school closures, Macquarie College will continue to follow the advice published by the Federal and NSW Governments in relation to any potential closure. The latest advice from NSW Chief Health Officer in regards to school closures has been included as a [link here](#).

Macquarie College respects the right of parents to keep their children at home as a consequence of the COVID-19 outbreak, with such absences from the regular school program and provision for learning having previously been discussed in Update 6 - 16 March.

Continuity of Learning on the MC Campus

Despite the challenges represented by the current COVID-19 outbreak, the provision of high-quality learning continues to take place on a daily basis at Macquarie College. Significant adjustments have

been made to the learning program with the aim of minimising risk to both students and staff. These adjustments are being monitored on a daily basis to ensure that the current programs reflect up-to-date Government advice.

While Macquarie College is committed to maintaining a learning program that seeks to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all attending students and staff, we are also conscious that the COVID-19 outbreak represents challenges not typically experienced in our community. To assist the school in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all on the campus, parents and carers are again reminded that current health advice for families with **students who are unwell** (temperature at or above 37.9 or severe respiratory symptoms) is that those students should be kept at home and under no circumstances should they be sent to school. In such circumstances, the unwell student should remain at home until they are symptom free without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g. cold and flu medications, cough suppressants etc.).

In circumstances where a student presents at school when they are unwell or develops flu-like symptoms throughout the day, families will be asked to collect them immediately. This advice is not based on the assumption that a student presenting with flu-like symptoms does, in fact, have COVID-19, but rather is a proactive measure to ensure that in the worst case scenario, the risk of secondary infections is greatly reduced.

In circumstances where a **parent or family member** of a school student is unwell or develops flu-like symptoms, such students are to remain at home to minimise the risk of secondary infections. Such exclusion from school should continue until the unwell family member is fully recovered.

Likewise, parents or family members of students who are unwell, must not attend the Macquarie College campus for the duration of their illness. Once again, this measure is intended to minimise secondary infections.

MC@Home Learning Program

A staff meeting for MC teachers occurred today to finalise details of the new MC@Home Learning program. This program will provide scope for students from K-12 to complete scheduled classes online with direct support from their regular MC teachers.

We anticipate being in a position to launch the MC@Home Learning program towards the end of this week. In the interim, students who are being kept at home due to the COVID-19 outbreak are requested to contact their class teacher directly by email regarding ongoing class work.

School Fees

Macquarie College understands that during the term of the COVID-19 outbreak there may be families that, due to circumstances beyond their control, experience financial hardship.

Macquarie College continues to operate from the perspective that financial hardship should not be a reason for a family being unable to continue to access the College's programs. Hence, to assist in navigating the risk of financial hardship, families are encouraged to contact Mr Stephen Andrews, the Macquarie College Business Manager directly at businessmanager@mc.nsw.edu.au throughout the period of the COVID-19 outbreak to discuss payment plan options. Macquarie College can also extend fee remission and/or support to families as appropriate, on a case-by-case basis.

Sports Programs

In consultation with the AICES Sub Associations and following the lead of NSW CIS, HRIS and AICES all representative school sporting events will be cancelled until the end of Term 1. During the Easter Holidays, and based on the available information at that time, representative events scheduled in Term 2 will be reviewed and advice regarding these events will be sent to schools before the commencement of the term. Nominations and representative pathways will most likely proceed via paper trials processed via your school Sports Coordinator.

Finally, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rohan Deanshaw', is written over a light blue horizontal grid background.

Rohan Deanshaw

Principal

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This email was sent to merriamzoghbi@yahoo.com.au from SEQTA Teach. If you believe you received this email in error, please contact Macquarie College.

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