
Macquarie College COVID-19 Update 7 - 18 March

1 message

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18 March 2020 at 17:01



Good afternoon Parents and Carers,

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

MC CLOUD - A NEW WAY OF LEARNING AT MACQUARIE COLLEGE

Macquarie College is pleased to announce the launch on Monday 23rd March 2020 of its new online learning platform - MC Cloud, which will use the school's SEQTA platform to facilitate staff and student interaction across a range of compatible interfaces, such as Google Classroom and Google Meet, which are currently in broad use across the school's programs*. This new service to Macquarie College families will enable students in the school's K-12 program to use their personal computers to attend their regular timetabled classes alongside their peers, with their teacher present. Students attending Macquarie College via MC Cloud will be required to attend each timetabled class, where the roll will be marked and student completion of learning tasks and engagement in class discussion and activities will be monitored. Most significantly, MC Cloud will mirror the learning tasks and instruction which takes place in the like timetabled classes which occur at the same time onsite at Macquarie College.

With the launch of the MC Cloud program, it is now possible for Macquarie College to offer students who are offsite the same quality learning as those who are onsite. Parents who have concerns for the health and wellbeing of their children due to the COVID-19 outbreak, are now encouraged to register their child for the MC Cloud program as per the outline below.

Please be assured that until mandated by the Government, Macquarie College will remain open with a full program operating for parents who wish to send their children to school

Students wishing to access MC Cloud will be required to meet the expectations of an MC Cloud agreement, including the Macquarie College Acceptable Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines, to ensure appropriate online conduct. Students who do not meet these expectations will be subject to the school's published behavioural processes.

Parents and carers of students accessing MC Cloud will also be asked to read the applicable MC Cloud agreement and complete an online registration form for each of their participating students. This simple registration process is critical to ensuring that Macquarie College is able to manage such student school attendance through the mandated 'alternate program' system and that parents are fully cognizant of their child's participation in the program.

**** Please note, that due to the closure of the Junior School on Monday 23rd for Mrs Leonie Thomson's funeral, the MC Cloud program for K-6 students will commence Tuesday 24th March.***

IMPORTANT MC CLOUD INFORMATION

This section outlines some of the key protocols for MC Cloud.

Please note that this program requires students to follow a normal school program delivered virtually.

Also note that we recognise that published assessment tasks may be adjusted, or dates changed, to facilitate MC Cloud. Students should check with their teacher as to the most up to date assessment task details. This is particularly important for HSC students. Please do not assume that the task description you printed out in February is accurate.

Please use the following link to register your child for the MC Cloud program: [MC Cloud student registration form \(one per participating child\)](#)

In the event that a family has questions regarding access to technology please contact the College ICT Manager, Mr Philip Wicks (pwicks@mc.nsw.edu.au) for assistance.

Junior School

Teachers will place instructions and/or activities in their course pages on SEQTA. This will allow parents to have guidance as to appropriate at home learning activities for their children.

The MC Cloud section in the course pages will become the main point of information. While there may be links to other activities and platforms, we always start with SEQTA.

Attendance will be taken each day, starting live at 8:50. This will be done via a live video call from Google Meet. We advise that all students have their cameras turned off, and respond via chat or audio.

Teachers will check in live a couple more times throughout the day to ensure student understanding of that day's program. They will also be available via email throughout their scheduled lesson times.

For more details - please refer to the [JS Parent/Student Agreement](#).

Senior School

Teachers will place instructions for each lesson they are responsible for in each SEQTA online lesson.

Students need to be on time for each lesson, as attendance will be taken. This will be done via a live video call from Google Meet. We advise that all students have their cameras turned off, and respond via chat or audio.

For more details - please refer to the [SS Student Agreement](#).

In the event that a child is registered to participate in the MC Cloud learning program, but is unwell and does not participate on any given day, the usual student absence processes will apply.

As we launch the MC Cloud platform, the next step for learning at Macquarie College, I would like to acknowledge the great work of our teachers, and most particularly, Mr David Chapman (Assistant Principal - Teaching and Learning/Global Partnerships), whose combined efforts have made such learning possible for our students.

ADVICE FOR PARENTS DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP AT SCHOOL

Effective immediately, when dropping students off at school and when picking up in the afternoon, all parents and carers are now requested to enter the car line and simply 'kiss-and-drop' their children rather than parking and walking onto and around the school site. This measure is intended as a further measure to manage the flow of people moving about the site and the potential for infections to occur. Macquarie College will look forward to welcoming parents and carers back onsite upon the finalisation of the COVID-19 risk period.

ADVICE FOR VOLUNTEERS (INCLUDING READING GROUPS)

Effective immediately, Macquarie College is suspending its current volunteer program until a date to be determined. This measure is intended to minimise the COVID-19 risk to both students and volunteers. Macquarie College will look forward to welcoming our valued volunteers back onsite upon the finalisation of the COVID-19 risk period.

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

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For more information on SEQTA, visit www.seqta.com.au.