

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update #15 – 10 June 2020

We thought we would provide you with an update on how we are currently managing COVID-19.

As you would be aware, a mass gathering occurred in Brisbane on Sunday and it is unknown as to whether this will cause a spike in COVID-19 cases. There have also been some recent COVID-19 restriction relaxations and more due on 12 June and 12 July.

With these things in mind we will continue with the majority of safety measures we have in place until the end of Term 2. They will be reviewed during the holidays in line with recommendations from Queensland Health, as well as factoring in the number of active cases in Queensland.

We would like to make you aware of the following:

COVID-19 Health and Hygiene Practices

- **Disinfectant Fogging** – when we issued our Health and Hygiene Measures in May, we were planning to undertake regular disinfectant fogging, however after recommendations from Safe Work Australia we have decided against this. Our current procedure of disinfecting surfaces is a more effective and a safer option.
- **Air conditioning** – the current recommendations around COVID-19 are to avoid air conditioning and leave windows open where possible. It is also flu season and warm classrooms, filled with 30 or so bodies, are perfect flu incubators. It is well known that school children are the biggest spreaders of the flu. We have made the decision to turn off all air conditioners and when not too cold will open windows. Not only will this help keep us all healthy, it will keep our environment healthy by reducing our carbon footprint. Your children will need to wear a jumper to school as it can be cool in the mornings.
- **Hand washing and sanitising** – we are asking students and staff to regularly wash or sanitise hands as this is still the most effective way of preventing the spread of viruses.
- **Daily cleaner** – we have reduced the hours of our daily cleaner to a half day. We believe our hand washing and desk cleaning regime, combined with a half day cleaning of shared surfaces, will be sufficient.

- **Illness** – we'd like to thank parents for being vigilant with managing illness. We appreciate you keeping your children home when they are ill and for having them checked by the doctor when displaying COVID-19 like symptoms. Please continue to let us know about any family members being tested and/or the event of any positive cases.
- **School Uniform adjustment** – we are allowing students who have sport during the day to wear their sports uniform all day. This also applies to students who ride bikes to school. We are noticing a number of students are wearing black leggings instead of shorts. We would ask that during winter, if students are cold, to **please wear black or dark blue tracksuit pants instead of shorts, not leggings.**

June/July School Holidays

- A reminder that the June/July holidays are only two weeks duration due to one of the weeks being transferred to the Easter holidays. The last day of Term 2 is Friday 26 June and students will be finishing at 1pm. School resumes on Monday 13 July.

COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan

- We have developed a comprehensive plan which will be enacted if we have a positive case within our school community. This plan will ensure the safety of our students and staff, and provides a plan for switching into Remote Learning Mode as soon as possible.

We are committed to keeping Hillbrook safe and we appreciate what everyone is doing to protect themselves and others.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely

School Leadership Team