

4 February 2020

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

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Letter to Parents – Updated 3 February

Dear Parents and Carers

Acting on the latest information regarding the Novel Coronavirus from the Department of Health, Catholic Education Western Australia is advising the following for all Catholic schools in Western Australia.

Please note especially the advice relating to students travelling from or through Hong Kong which has recently been updated by the Department of Health.

Students who have been in the Hubei Province of China

Students who have been in the Hubei Province of China must be isolated in their home for 14 days after leaving the Hubei Province, other than for seeking individual medical care. They are not able to attend school, school events, day care centres or residential colleges. This also applies to parents/carers, staff, contractors, visitors and volunteers on school sites and at school events.

Students returning from mainland China (excluding Hubei Province of China)

Students arriving from (including transiting through) mainland China must be isolated in their home for 14 days from the time they leave mainland China. They are not able to attend school, school events, day care centres or residential colleges.

Students returning from Hong Kong (including transiting through) prior to 1 February

Students who returned from (including transiting through) Hong Kong **prior to 1 February** are being asked to stay at home for 14 days after leaving Hong Kong.

Students returning from Hong Kong (including transiting through) on or from 1 February

Students arriving from (including transiting through) Hong Kong <u>on or from 1 February</u> not displaying any symptoms may attend school. If they develop symptoms they should not attend school and immediately seek medical advice.

Students in close contact with a confirmed case

If a student has been informed by Public Health authorities they are a close contact of a confirmed case of the Novel Coronavirus, irrespective of whether they have developed symptoms, they cannot attend school, school events, day care centres or residential colleges until their local public health unit informs them that it is safe for them to do so. This also applies to parents/carers, staff, contractors, visitors and volunteers on school sites and at school events. Evidence from the public health authority is required for the student to return to school.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> at https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/coronavirus has more information on the virus and a **WA Coronavirus Hotline**, on 1800 300 243.

If your child will be away from school for the reasons outlined above, please contact the school to let us know when they were last in Hubei Province of China, mainland China or Hong Kong and to discuss any support for your child's learning while they are absent from school.

We will ensure that students' good standing is not impacted where they are absent through isolation as outlined above.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Melissa Marquis PRINCIPAL