

IONA COLLEGE



A Catholic Boys' College conducted by The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

16 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware the World Health Organisation has now declared the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic. As a result, the Australian Government has advised all Australians to reconsider the need to travel overseas. The Government's warning, as at 14 March 2020 in part read:

"Regardless of your destination, age or health, if your overseas travel is not essential, consider whether now is the right time".

We urge you to follow the advice of the Australian Government and reconsider your need to travel overseas. If for some reason you, your family, or members of your household travel overseas while the situation with the coronavirus is still emerging, the College will require your son to self-isolate for 14 days. This is the case whether your son or another member of your household travelled overseas. It is important for our joint responsibility regarding the health and safety of all members of our community, that families abide by the College's requirement for students to remain at home for the self-isolation period. The College can continue to support students' learning while they are in self-isolation by providing some work for them to proceed with while they remain at home. This can be obtained by contacting your son's Head of House.

In the meantime, the College will continue to keep you informed about Coronavirus developments which impact upon College operations. The Compass App is a preferred method of communication. If you have not yet downloaded the App can I invite you to do so. Instructions on how to do this are included at the end of this letter.

I am sure that you are also aware that over the weekend the Prime Minister also made the following announcements:

- Schools will remain open and respond to local issues as required on the advice of health authorities.
- All international travel arrivals will be required to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days on arrival back in Australia.
- Social Distancing will continue to be a key response to this virus and to contain its spread – no hand shaking, 1.5 metre safe distancing, etc
- Mass gatherings for 500+ people are not to proceed.

Members of the College staff continue to meet to determine Iona's response to the latest developments and the most recent advice. We have met today and made some decisions about future events for the remainder of Term 1 and into Term 2. These decisions have been made cognisant of the following factors:

- The importance that the College places on safety as our highest priority
- The potential for community transmission if the planned event was to go ahead
- Whether there is a capacity for appropriate social distancing to occur
- Whether or not the event is curriculum focused or related to the ongoing sustainability of the College
- Community expectations

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Below is an outline of the status of events as at the time of writing. The College will continue to monitor the situation and review the decisions in relation to these events and any event not yet listed in the table below.

DATE	EVENT	RESPONSE
Various	Assemblies	Cancelled/Alternative Format
Various	Rosie's (Wednesday Nights)	Cancelled
AIC	Sports	Decision Pending
	Football trials	Postponed
Various	Enrolment Interviews	Continuing
Various	Intra-trials (Term 2 Sport)	Postponed
Various	Sport Training	Cancelled until further notice
Various	Ensembles	Cancelled until further notice
Various	Group and Individual Lessons	Continuing
Various	Debating	To Be Advised
Various	Evening House Masses	Postponed
Various	College tours	Postponed
Various	P & F meetings	Continuing
17 March	Music Concert	Postponed
23 March	Sacramental Program	Alternate format to be notified
26 March	Immunisations	Continuing
29 March	Blaze Aid (including 7/8 April)	Cancelled
30 March	Passion Play School Performances	To be advised
3 April	Interhouse Cross Country	Postponed
6 – 8 April	Ballymore Open Rugby	Cancelled
10 April	Passion Play Performance (public)	Cancelled
20 April	Hawera Rugby Game	Cancelled
22 April	Year 7 Mother & Son Engagement evening	Cancelled
24 April	ANZAC Day Service	Alternate format
28 April	Student Progress Meetings	Alternate format
29 April – 1 May	Year 9 camp	To be Advised
1 May	Year 7/8 dance	Cancelled
8 May	Mother's Day Liturgy	Cancelled
11 May	Year 5 Prospective Parent Information Night	Alternate format
16 May	Old Boys' Day	Cancelled
21 May	Founders Day Mass/Celebration	Alternate format
28 May to 30 May	College Production	Postponed

As always, we continue to pray for the speedy recovery of those who have contracted the virus and for the quick identification of treatments and vaccines.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Goodwin
Principal

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Iona College App

1. Go to the App store on your phone (Apple iTunes or Android Play Store)
2. Search and download / install **Compass School Manager** app
3. Search for **Iona College**
4. Enter your personal Compass credentials (the username and password you already use to access Compass)
5. Accept **Push Notifications**

Any queries please contact Iona IT Services: helpdesk@iona.qld.edu.au