

IONA COLLEGE



Guidelines for Parents regarding 'At Home Learning' (AHL)

Parent/Guardian Expectations

This document outlines the underlying expectations of parents/guardians of Iona students during the period of 'At Home Learning'. As a goal, this document reinforces the importance of parent/guardian engagement as the College and families continue to work in partnership in the academic, well-being and spiritual growth of each student. Your role is to help ensure that learning occurs in such a way to support both the academic growth and well-being development of your son.

In providing learning continuity, it is important that the student has as much routine and certainty as possible.

These guidelines pertain to parent/guardian responsibilities in the following areas:

- Attendance
- Home Learning/Learning Space
- Communication/ Feedback
- Summary of staff guidelines

Attendance

- Parents should expect their son to fulfill his school day **mirroring his usual class timetable**, as much as possible. There should be appropriate breaks for lunch/ drinks/ toilet/ exercise/prayer etc
- If a student is unwell and unable to complete his usual lessons, parents should report his absence to student reception via the absentee line – 3893 8889. If a student is late to commence a lesson or leaves his 'At Home Learning' early, notification is again required.
- Should a student test positively to the COVID -19 virus, the student will need to follow government protocols regarding self-isolation and the school be notified via the same absentee process.
- No 'At Home Learning' will be expected during any period of illness.

At Home Learning

Our expectations are that parents will:

- Support the establishment of daily routines, expectations and goals.
- Ensure appropriate student attire and background for any online visual interaction
- Assist their son's engagement in 'At Home Learning' through a level of support and guidance appropriate to their son's development.
- Check in with their son often to help manage and pace their work
- Monitor how much time their child is spending online

These expectations are outlined in the 'At Home Learning and WELLBEING SUPPORT' document communicated by Dean of Students or Head of Primary.

Home Learning Space

The Learning Space for the student should be conducive to productive outcomes. While we recognize that every home is different and that students learn best in different ways, it's important to:

- establish a quiet and comfortable learning space which is distraction free.
- ensure good lighting and ventilation.
- provide a supportive chair and clear workspace.

Where possible, the learning space should be visible to adults and not a closed bedroom or study where supervision and support can be more challenging.

Communication/Feedback

We encourage parents and guardians to start and finish each day with a simple check-in. These check-ins can be a regular part of each day.

In the morning, ask:

What are you learning today?
What are your learning targets or goals?
How will you be spending your time?
What resources do you need? What support do you need?
Have you engaged in the daily prayer?

In the afternoon, ask:

What did you learn today?
What was challenging? You could collectively determine a strategy to deal with the same problem if it comes up again.
What went well today?
The learning I undertook today would have been even better if?
Are you checking in with your teacher to help support your learning?
What went well today?
What Character Strengths did you use today?
Have you joined in with the community College Prayer at the end of the day?

Staff guidelines

The following points provide a brief outline of staff expectations during a period of 'At Home Learning'

Communication

- Always maintain appropriate and professional communication and remain mindful of the multiple audiences through any digital platform
- Expect appropriate and professional communication from students and parents at all times
- Communicate only through Iona College domains/platforms
- Being mindful of self-regulation regarding reply times and hours of contact
- The understanding that the subject teacher is the first point of contact for families regarding subject specific academic progress
- Report any inappropriate communication or non-engagement in learning to relevant leader (dependent on Year Level).

Provision

- All work must be signposted through the 'Lesson Plan' section of COMPASS
- Provision of curriculum should be diverse and provide a variety of mediums for enhancing student learning. Videos, audios, links, tasks, worksheets and reflection activities are some of the options available.
- Staff are required to check the work of students to monitor their engagement and provide feedback.