17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As you would be aware the situation is changing on a daily basis regarding the community and government response to the COVID-19. As a school we are monitoring and responding to advice and directions provided by SA Health, Department for Education (DfE) and National Cabinet.

In the past few days the new National Cabinet announced a number of responses including:

1. Anyone who enters Australia from midnight Sunday 15th March, including Australians returning home, must self-isolate for 14 days.
2. All international cruise ships will be banned from Australian ports for at least the next 30 days.
3. Social-distancing guidelines have been expanded with all non-essential, organised gatherings of more than 500 people banned from Monday 16th March 2020.

As a school we have made adjustments to operational practices in line with SA Health and DfE recommendations.

These include:

* Cancelling Sports Day
* Not running assemblies or other large gatherings
* Cancelling or rescheduling a range of camps and excursions

In addition, we have implemented strategies to support social distancing and effective hygiene practices.

We are currently reviewing interstate and overseas travel planned for later in the year.

**Teaching and Learning**

As a school we use Daymap as our Learner Management System to provide lesson notes, homework and assessment in addition to monitoring student attendance. Today in our staff professional learning, we sharpened our focus on the level of detail required to support student learning through this online platform.

We are currently preparing for the possibility of either a short or long-term closure. In the event of a short-term closure (24 to 48 hours) Daymap will be the primary resource for student learning. If the school were to close for an extended period, we will activate our plan for remote teaching and learning.

In preparation for this, teachers will be establishing with their students, access to Microsoft Teams, an online collaborative platform. In the event of an extended closure, this will support video conferencing and live interaction to supplement our use of Daymap. We will provide further details about our plan for remote learning by the end of the week.

**Communication**

We will continue to update you on emerging issues as they arise via email. In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 we will be notified by SA Health immediately and will follow their direction. Parents, caregivers, staff and students will be informed by SMS as well as by email, about what is required. This will result in the school being closed for at least 24 hours to allow SA Health to determine who may have come into contact with the infected person and to determine the areas within the school which the person visited, and which requires cleaning.

During the school day tomorrow (Wed 18th March) we will be sending a test SMS to confirm recorded mobile contact details. If you do not receive an SMS by 4pm, please email admin@brighton.sa.edu.au providing your name, student name and updated mobile contact as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Tony Lunniss

Principal

Brighton Secondary School