



Dear Parents,

Just after I sent you an email last night, the Prime Minister gave a press conference where he stated his position on whether schools should be open. At 8 AM this morning the NSW Premier articulated her position on how NSW schools should operate from this point forward. Following the Premier's press conference, the school executive and the chairman of the school board met to discuss how our school can continue to provide high-quality learning and care for our students.

Our position is that parents are able to send their children to school if they think that is in their family's best interests. In her press conference this morning Ms Berejiklian said:

.... For practical reasons in NSW we will be encouraging parents to keep their children at home..... I want to stress, for parents that (sic) are workers and have no option, the school is safe for children to attend schools.

Based on the Premier's statements, I am anticipating that a substantial number of Shire Christian School parents will choose to keep their children at home from tomorrow. Our teachers have already been producing excellent instructions and resources for students who are learning from home. Students and parents can access information on how to learn effectively from home by:

Junior School - visit the [Junior School Hub](#) and go to your child's class Google Site.

Years 3-6 parents need to log in with their child's school account.

Secondary School – students should visit the Google Classroom for each subject.

Students who come to school from tomorrow will go to class as normal. There may be some adjustments to daily routines depending on how many students are present. Students who come to school from now on will access the same learning tasks that their peers are completing at home.

From Monday 30 March, Secondary School students will commence lessons where students will learn online following the existing school timetable. For example, if Year 9 have Maths in period one next Monday,



all of Year 9 will go to the Google classroom for Maths at 8:20 AM and follow the instructions that will be posted for them to read. This information will include instructions on how the teacher will mark the roll remotely and also how students will be expected to demonstrate evidence of their learning before the lesson ends at 9:10 AM. Students will operate this way regardless of whether they are at school or at home.

Years 10, 11 and 12

HSC and ROSA tasks will proceed as planned for the foreseeable future. If the task is an assignment, teachers should advise students how to submit that task digitally. If the task is an in class test, the test will proceed as planned. Students who are absent should send an email to their teacher advising him/her of this. Special consideration will be given to absent students so that no one will be disadvantaged.

Assessment, reporting and feedback

The school's emphasis at the moment is trying to ensure that we provide an excellent quality of learning and pastoral care for all students, whether they are present on the school site or at home. We will advise parents soon on how we will approach assessing student work, how we will report student achievement to parents and how we will provide meaningful feedback to students to help them improve their understanding and skills.

Health, hygiene and social distancing

The school continues to emphasise the importance of hygiene and social distancing as I have previously communicated. I have recently increased the amount of cleaning of handrails, doorknobs and other surfaces during the course of the day, as well as careful cleaning each night.

The NSW government has advised parents that:

If your child is unwell, or has been overseas in the last 14 days, do not send them to school. Unwell children should remain at home until symptoms resolve. A person who is unwell or who has been overseas in



Shire
Christian
School

a firm foundation

the last 14 days should not enter the school to pick up or drop off children (or for any other reason without the express permission of the school).

I deeply appreciate the support our loyal, gracious parents are giving the school at this challenging time. I also thank all of our teachers and support staff who have invested so much time and care to provide for our much loved students.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Kind regards,

Mr Brett Hartley
Principal