



**St Joseph's**  
College  
TOOWOOMBA

27 March 2020

### End of Term 1 and Start of Term 2 Arrangements

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a result of the evolving COVID-19 situation, yesterday the Queensland Government advised that next week Queensland schools will be student free. While students are not required to attend school next week, the school will provide **supervision** for students, from Monday to Thursday, where their parents are required to attend work and for vulnerable students (e.g. those living in out-of-home care). **Schools will not be providing supervision for students on Friday of next week.**

To assist with planning for the provision of supervision from Monday to Thursday next week it would be helpful to know the approximate numbers of students who may be attending. **Please contact the school on 07 46318500 or email [office@sjc.qld.edu.au](mailto:office@sjc.qld.edu.au) before 3.00pm this afternoon if your child will be attending on these days next week.**

The change to the end of Term 1 arrangements is designed to help our staff and school prepare for the remote delivery of teaching and learning in Term 2. Should this eventuate, it would involve learning at home for many families. I want to thank our dedicated staff for their continued support of our students during this very challenging time. Their wellbeing is also a key factor in our planning and preparation.

Assessment and reporting is being finalised by teachers by the end of the week. Report cards will be mailed in the first week of the holidays and information about Parent Teacher Interviews will be sent via a broadcast.

### Term 2 Arrangements

As the Premier advised, the precise arrangements for Week 1 of Term 2 will be advised closer to that time and will be guided by the advice of health authorities. Consistent with the Premier and Prime Minister's recent announcements about the need to provide appropriate social distancing at schools, we anticipate that parents who can support learning at home will be asked to keep their children at home from Week 1 of Term 2.

It is also likely that schools will need to remain operational at the start of Term 2 for those parents who need to send their children due to work commitments (unless their child is sick) or because the student is vulnerable (such as those living out of home). As a school, we are committed to supporting our essential workers at this challenging time.

We will confirm the specific arrangements for Term 2 as soon as we are able. However, to assist with our initial Term 2 planning, please advise the school via email by no later than 4.00pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April if you anticipate that you will need to send your child/ren to school from week 1 of Term 2. This will assist us to make appropriate arrangements to plan for students who may need to attend school for supervision.

### Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care

We know this is an unsettling time for the whole community and it is important that as a school community and as families we provide reassurance for our students and keep their lives as normal as possible. Students will be supported with their learning as much as possible whilst working from home. Teachers will continue to be available should you have questions about any aspect of their education; however, we remind parents that all student work is accessible via Canvas.

### Senior students

Queensland Curriculum Assessment Authority (QCAA) has advised the Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) that they have decided to remove one internal assessment from the total of four

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prescribed in each syllabus. This will provide some relief for Year 12 students as they contend with uncertainty and disruption while working towards their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) in 2020. It will also support teachers to manage reduced classroom time.

In the next few weeks, the QCAA will provide schools with direction on how they should adjust what is taught and the nature and timing of other assessments. There will be some flexibility to accommodate the specific needs of subjects — both General and Applied — but across-the-board adjustment is necessary to ensure the assessment experience is as equitable as it can be for all students.

Students can be assured that they will still receive fair subject results based on fewer than the four assessments mandated in syllabuses. Parents and carers, and their teachers, can draw comfort from the QCAA's commitment to listen and respond to their concerns as we negotiate the ongoing challenges this year will bring.

Senior Exams which were scheduled for Week 10, Term 1, have now been postponed until further notice. This includes

- Year 12 Essential English Common Internal Assessment
- Year 12 French Exam IA2
- Year 12 Specialist Mathematics Exam IA2
- Year 11 Drama & Drama in Practice Performance

Senior Assignments can still be submitted **on or before the due date** for Year 12 Digital Solutions IA2 - Friday 27 March

- Year 12 Study of Religion IA2 - Friday 27 March
- Year 12 Visual Art in Practice Module 2 - Friday 27 March
- Year 11 Specialist Maths Unit 1 Assignment – Monday 30 March
- Year 12 Biology IA2 - Tuesday 31 March
- Year 12 Modern History IA2 - Wednesday 1 April
- Year 12 Music Composition - Wednesday 1 April
- Year 12 Physics IA2 – Wednesday 1 April

#### **Tuition fees**

We acknowledge the difficult economic circumstances many families now find themselves in and we would encourage any family facing difficulty with tuition fees to discuss this with the College. We remain committed to providing an education to all students through these difficult times. However, as the school will continue to operate and our staff will keep working to provide continuity of teaching and learning, including under learning at home arrangements, tuition fees will continue to be charged.

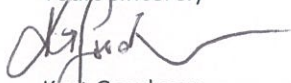
#### **School Communications**

Although we are likely to commence under new arrangements in Term 2, we will continue to communicate with you through the normal school channels whenever new information is available. Should you need to contact the College you can do so via email at [office@sjc.qld.edu.au](mailto:office@sjc.qld.edu.au) or by phoning 07 46318500.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the sick and the vulnerable at this time and also with the frontline health and emergency services workers bringing care and healing to those affected by the virus.

I know this will be a difficult time for our whole community and I thank you in advance for your support for our students and staff and your understanding as we go forward.

Yours sincerely

  
Kort Goodman  
College Principal

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