



EAC Community Update: 30 March 2020

We will get through this together

Thank you to all of the families that have sent messages of good will, thanks, care and support over the last week. It is in difficult times that you are reminded of what really matters and I am delighted by the way our EAC community has responded to these new and challenge times. I know positive messages of support and encouragement are being shared right across the community and I ask that we continue to support and care for each other as things unfold in the coming weeks and months.

Let us make sure that we all rise to the challenge and ensure this situation brings out the best in all of us and in our community. Look after one another, check in with friends and don't forget to reach out to neighbours and the broader community to see how you can help. Please continue to follow the social distancing guidelines and protect yourself and family but don't forget those around us who may not be doing so well during this challenging time.

We will get through this if we stick together!

Financial support for families during difficult times

We want to ensure that all our families remain part of our community and are determined not to lose any students because their family is experiencing financial difficulties due to the economic shutdown. College Council will meet this week to discuss ways to support families experiencing financial stress during this time. There will be a number of initiatives put into place to reduce the financial burden on families and to remove the stress for those families who have experienced job loss, business closure or significant reduction in income.

Further information will be available early next week.

Technology enables home base learning – off to a great start

A huge thank you to all staff, students and families for the way you have embraced the transition to a new way of learning. The enthusiasm, creativity, initiative and good will that has been shown by all parties has been fantastic.

I also appreciate the patience shown by all as we have moved into this new realm of home based learning. We will continue to refine our processes to manage things like workflow and timeframes for activities so student have a clearer understanding of what is required and are not overwhelmed. We very much appreciate the support of parents in helping coordinate home timetables and routines to maximise the benefits on home based learning.



Year 12 HSC Students

We are very conscious of the need to support our Year 12 students in their HSC year. Zoom video conferencing will commence this morning for our senior students and staff are readily available to respond to student questions and learning needs. The Assessment program will continue as normal but students should continue to read correspondence from teachers regarding possible changes to submission requirements. We are awaiting advice from NESA regarding courses that have major works and practical components. In the interim, students are encouraged to continue with portfolio planning and development of documentation related to these projects.

College regular channels of communication continue to operate

All College services continue to operate and I ask families to use the normal pathways of communication if you have questions or concerns about learning, student wellbeing, finances, enrolments, ELC and so on. The College Office is now a virtual office but we are still answering phone calls and responding to emails. Remember the first point of contact in most student matters is the classroom teacher.

Site supervision and operation of the Early Learning Centre

The College site and Early Learning Centre continue to operate for students of families who are essential services workers or those that have no other option in terms of care while they continue to work. I thank all families for the initiative shown in keeping children at home during this time. I also wish to acknowledge and thank those school and ELC staff that continue to work in order to provide this service. Their professionalism and dedication is much appreciated.

Once again, I thank everyone for your support during this time.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Tobias'.

Robert Tobias
Principal