



**ST HILDA'S SCHOOL
GOLD COAST**

1 February 2020

RETURN-TO-SCHOOL STUDENT HEALTH UPDATE #3

Dear Parents and Carers

STUDENT HEALTH UPDATE - Coronavirus

As we reach the end of the first week of school in 2020, I wanted to extend my thanks to our community for your understanding and quick action while we have worked with the evolving nature of Health Alert information as it has been received from national and state health departments.

Your response to our online questionnaire, or soft copy questionnaire for those who attended the leadership and orientation day, has been of great assistance in enabling us to communicate on individual circumstances as we received updates on who was required to return to school 14 days after their travel. The current advice, as communicated on 30 January is:

- Returned travellers who have visited China or Hong Kong, should not attend school, childcare or TAFE **for 14 days after leaving China or Hong Kong**
- This includes students, teachers and anyone who works or attends these facilities.

If you are looking to review any of the correspondence on 'Return to School Student Health' you can access this [here](#) or on our website.

I would also like to extend my thanks to our Boarders; those who have vacated a wing to enable separated housing, and those who, due to their travel arrangements, find themselves directed to take these precautionary measures for the greater good of all in the community. Friends of those who are not in class have been extremely supportive, with older students assisting with the delivery of class work through 'face-timing' to enable real time viewing of what is happening in class.

Our staff throughout the School who deliver our many services across the campus, continue to respond with compassion and care. As avenues for the delivery of curriculum continue to evolve, teachers of different year levels and with different subject disciplines will determine how best to support students out of school.

The Incident Management Team continues to meet daily and maintains open lines of communication in order to problem solve the many issues that develop during circumstances such as these. Our supportive network of the Anglican Schools' Commission, Independent Schools Queensland, and our Boarding School Associations and colleagues, continue to work together to inform and support each other.

.../2

It is appropriate to acknowledge that with individual circumstances there will be a range of emotional responses to the coronavirus. As reported in the media, fear can cloud judgement. As a school we continue to work calmly with advice from credible authorities for the safety and wellbeing of all members of our community.

For those with particular health conditions, other concerns may arise during a time such as this. Your doctor's advice is your best course of action. We continue to support those members of the community who may not have travelled, but have identified the need for self-isolation. Please contact your daughter's Form Teacher in the Junior School, or Head of Year in the Middle and Senior Schools should your circumstances require work to be provided during the upcoming week.

As well as supportive responses from our community, our School motto, *Non Nobis Solum* (not for ourselves alone), has certainly been evident this week. Our 'Sing Out' weekend and 'Boarders' Connect' weekend will, I am sure, also contribute to some of the more positive memories which many of our students have enjoyed over the last week. I will share more about our community events in our Newsletter next week.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Lauman
AACM(Td), BEd, GradCertTh, MEd, AIMM, MACEL
Interim Principal