



**ST HILDA'S SCHOOL
GOLD COAST**

22 May 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – 22 MAY 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Monday 25 May will signal the commencement of another stage of school resumption for many of our St Hilda's girls. A number of our Boarding families have made arrangements to assist their daughters to continue learning online for the remainder of the term, or have been able to relocate so that their girls can become Day Girls. A small number of our Boarders are currently residing with us in the Boarding House. However, even with the arrangements which are currently in place, and some easing of the Guidelines for Movement, there is ongoing need to assist our Boarding students to return to School.

I would like to ask if we have any families who may have connections with accommodation which could be sourced to help Boarding families (if they should be looking to relocate for Term 3), to please contact our Head of Boarding, Mrs Annette Boyle. The Prime Minister, and the Premier's 'roadmaps' identify an easing of COVID-19 restrictions through a staged process. However, health management advice for residential boarding could continue to limit opportunities for all Boarders to return to the Boarding House in Term 3, so your help would be greatly appreciated by our Boarding community.

A number of our Parent Support Groups met during this last week and we have begun to identify, and reimagine possibilities for many of the events and activities in our School Calendar. Mrs Mel Lilley, Acting Head of Sport, has provided students and parents with an update on fitness options this term, and an indication of the sports and different programs which we foresee being able to begin in Term 3. Further information will be sent as it is released by Clubs and Associations. St Hilda's Daily Correspondence also has a link to Miss Janette Kelly's advice on the resumption of String Ensembles next week. Likewise, she will share further information on the Music program in coming weeks. Unfortunately, not all our 'usual' activities and events will be able to resume, but we will work towards what the Guidelines will allow.

Communications updating you on matters relating to Junior School, Middle and Senior School, as well as upcoming assessment, was sent earlier in the week. I hope reviewing this correspondence will assist you with planning for the weeks ahead.

On a personal note I would like to thank the St Hilda's School community for your ongoing support of my leadership and the School over the past nine months, and your good wishes for my appointment as Principal. It is a privilege to serve you and to serve the vocation and ethos of an Anglican School. I hope when the School is able to welcome our parent community back to join us that we can celebrate all that your daughters have achieved during this challenging time, and all that you have done to assist your girls with their learning at home and management of the COVID-19 situation. Our staff in all areas of the School have been superb in their efforts to manage change brought about in their own circumstances, and being open to listening to our community to learn how best to assist you. I have appreciated hearing from parents in past weeks, receiving your feedback which has informed our programs, and for thanking staff for their efforts. Today, many of the Middle School girls took the opportunity to send some beautiful words of appreciation to their teachers. There is much to be thankful for, and I appreciate that in working together we will find many ways to recognize our blessings throughout 2020.

Yours sincerely

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Principal

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