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St Paul's
Catholic College
Booragul

28 April 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

COVID - 19 Update Number 20.

Day two of the term has gone smoothly and we are well into online delivery of the curriculum.

We have been in dialogue with the other colleges in the Maitland Newcastle Diocese along with the leadership team at the Catholic Schools Office and the Heads of Human Resources and Work Health and Safety. This dialogue has been to begin the process of planning for the gradual return of students in some sort of face to face capacity.

As I mentioned in the earlier updates this term, the Premier and the state government have asked schools across the state to develop plans for this gradual reintroduction for students. We have begun to formulate a plan that meets the needs of students, particularly Year 12, and the staff working in our schools. As Principal, I have responsibility not only for the learning outcomes of the students at the College but also the health and safety of staff, both teaching and support. The government position is that schools are safe places for students to attend in this pandemic but there are a number of issues that I need to address for staff.

We will use the next few days to finalise our plans for week 3. We will be publishing that plan to parents and caregivers on Friday giving families a week to organise what they need for the gradual return of students. As with all things surrounding this virus, our plans could change overnight. We will endeavour to work for the safety and security of students and staff as we move forward in this ever changing environment.

I thank parents and caregivers for respecting our processes up to this point. Our Online Curriculum Delivery will continue for our students and I ask that if you are able to keep your children at home, that you continue to do this. We are still working on a roster system for teachers, based on government advice, which means that they are working from home reducing the risk of possible adult transmission.

You will also receive advice from the Catholic Schools Office in the next few days giving some initial guidance as to the gradual return to face to face classes for students.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Go gently,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Selmes', is positioned above the name of the principal.

Mr Graeme Selmes
Principal