



SHALOM COLLEGE

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6 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, yesterday the Premier announced that from **Monday 11 May 2020**, students in Kindergarten, Prep, Year 1, Year 11 and Year 12 will be able to return to their school and kindergarten.

For students in Years 2 – 10, the current *Learning from Home* Program will remain in place with only children of essential workers and vulnerable children able to attend school for supervision of learning. If low COVID-19 transmission rates continue, students in Years 2 – 10 will be able to return to school from **Monday 25 May 2020**. Confirmation of this step will be made by 15 May 2020.

It is recognised that some Year 11 and 12 parents may choose to keep their child at home due to concerns about COVID-19 and this decision is respected. As full classes have resumed in these year levels, it is not possible for the classroom teacher to provide an alternative learning from home program for students and if students are not at school, they will be marked absent. If parents choose to keep their child at home, I ask that you please notify the school via the absentee email. absentees@shalomcollege.com

Frequently Asked Questions are available to assist you to understand how Shalom will be implementing the transition back to school-based learning. This includes hygiene practices, such as effective hand hygiene, cough and sneeze etiquette, restricting visitors to the school and reminding you to notify our school if your child will not attend.

Shalom has enjoyed, on campus, more students than other high schools. This has worked well to date. With our Year 11 and 12 students returning next week, we may have a lot more students in Years 7 - 10 on campus. Could I just ask you to reflect on whether your child needs to be back at school in those year levels. If so, that is fine. If not, it does make the work of teachers a fair bit more complex teaching both on-line and face to face.

If you have a Year 7 – 10 child attending school from Monday 11 to 15 May please complete the Register below.

[Student Attendance Register Years 7 - 10 \(11 to 15 May 2020\)](#)

Students need to be at school by 8.30 am as Classes commence at 8.40 am. If your child is late to school (after 8.35 am) they will need to present to Student Reception to sign in.

The Attendance Register will be printed each morning at 7.45 am and used as the roll for the day for Years 7 – 10 Students. If your child has to attend school please make sure that they are aware that their name needs to be marked off on the paper rolls in the Year 7 – 10 Eating Area before going to class. If you have indicated on the Register that your child will be attending school and they are not marked off on the roll you will receive an SMS notification.

If your circumstances change and your child will/will not be attending school please resubmit the Google form with the updated days of attendance.

From next Monday, we will revert to our 'normal' timetable – four 75 minute lessons. In Year 7 - 10, for those working from home, those lessons will continue to be 50 minutes. This will allow a bit of time away from screens for those learning from home. We will also revert to formal school uniform for those on campus. Classroom allocation will also be as per student timetables.

It is essential that you keep your child home from school if they are unwell. In accordance with [Queensland Health Directions](#) parents or carers of any child showing signs of illness will be asked to collect them immediately from the school.

The decision to return Kindy, Prep, Year 1, Year 11 and Year 12 back to school is an important next step towards returning to our regular school routines and I will continue to update you as soon as any new information becomes available.

Our staff have greatly appreciated all the positive feedback that has been provided to them over the last few weeks.

Attached with this letter is some information from the Diocese about procedures. As I mentioned in the Newsletter, I think that parents at Shalom have done a wonderful job supporting the learning of young people during this time. I am grateful to you and to the teachers who have really worked hard to make this work. It has been a great team effort. We are all very much looking forward to having everyone back at school as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully



Dan McMahon
PRINCIPAL

