



SHALOM COLLEGE

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Monday, 16 March 2020

Dear Year 12 Parents & Students

The onset of Covid19 is having significant impacts on day to day life for us all. These will impact all at Shalom and there are two very significant Year 12 events that we anticipate will have to be adapted.

The first of these is our annual Year 12 Retreat. This has always been held at Maroochydhore with Michael Fitzpatrick as Facilitator. We believe that we would be better abandoning the idea of staying overnight for Retreat. Most years we invariably get a surge in those sharing colds with others in their cabins. This year, that risk is accentuated.

As an alternative, we are suggesting that we hold the Retreat here at school. Michael Fitzpatrick is prepared to come to Bundaberg for this event. Students would be able to go home each evening. The dates for Retreat are May 12, 13 & 14.

The other very significant event closely follows the Retreat and that is the Year 12 Formal. We anticipate having over 600 people attend this event which, like the Retreat, is a highlight for our Year 12 students. Given the rise of Covid19 at present, I doubt it will be dissipated enough to enable us to safely go ahead with this function on May 30th as scheduled.

We are suggesting we move the date of the Formal this year to Saturday November 14th. We have made a tentative booking for this event at the Bundaberg Multiplex. Regrettably, there will still be Year 12 external exams on at that time. Attached with this letter is the provisional External Exam schedule. We will have a small number of Year 12 students who will still have to sit their external Music Extension exam on Monday Nov 16th and Japanese on Tuesday Nov 17th. This would be a very busy time for us all with the Academic Awards ceremony on the evening of the 17th and Year 12 Graduation on Thursday 19th November.

I am very conscious that many have made arrangements to line up with the date of the Year 12 Formal as it is in the Calendar. Other than cancelling the event, I don't see many other possible dates for this event. We tried several others but venues were already booked or there were greater clashes with exams.

We are in a very fast changing landscape at the moment. Whilst no final decisions have yet been made on either of these issues, I wanted to outline to you, as soon as possible, the path forward that we see at the moment. I am happy to meet with parents or students at 4.45pm

tomorrow, Tuesday, in the College staff room if you would like to discuss this further.
Alternatively, I would welcome your email responses – shalom@shalomcollege.com

At all times, we will do all that we can to play our part in keeping Shalom and the community
as healthy as possible.

Kind regards



Dan McMahon
PRINCIPAL

