

Dear Parent/Caregiver

I wish to clarify the school's current position (as at 24 March 2020 12:00pm) based on the advice that we have received from the Government of Western Australia.

At this time schools will remain open through to the end of the current school Term to support students whose parents/caregivers choose to send them to school. Importantly, you have the choice of whether to send your child to school or not. If you choose to keep your child at home, you must agree to do exactly that - keep your child at home. This is for your child's own safety and that of the community. If you cannot look after your child at home, then your child should be at school.

Students staying home as a precautionary measure will be marked as a reasonable absence. If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school.

The Department of Education's (the Department) current position – and thereby the school's position – is that teachers are not expected to provide work packages for students staying home as a precautionary measure. As part of a move to an online provision, many teachers have placed curriculum materials on *Connect*. Teachers will continue to place additional material on *Connect* and we recommend children at home log on and check *Connect* on a daily basis.

The Department has launched a new website called *Learning at Home* which can be accessed through the Department's website or at <http://www.education.wa.edu.au/learning-at-home> to help parents/caregivers access resources. Resources will continue to be added over the coming weeks.

Teachers will not disadvantage any student if they are absent for an assessment. We will be guided by the advice provided by the Department of Education regarding examinations when it becomes available.

As you are aware, schools are exempt from social distancing rules. We feel it is important to educate our students, so we are still actively encouraging social distancing at Swan View SHS where possible. We also continue to educate our students on proper hygiene and the importance of washing their hands.

We are experiencing a high volume of queries about the coronavirus situation. Please use our normal processes for reporting non-attendance. We would appreciate you minimising other general school queries as we will continue to provide updates as information becomes available.

I acknowledge that this is a stressful time for the community. We are committed to reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus and will continue to follow the Department of Health advice to ensure that we can offer the safest possible environment for students and staff.

For the latest health information and health related enquiries please visit WA Department of Health at <http://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus> or access the helpline 1800 020 080.

Kind regards



Dr George Sekulla
Principal

24 March 2020