

Wilsonton State High School

1 April 2020

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Dear Wilsonton State High School Community,

I am writing to update you on the latest information in regards to schooling in Term Two. As you know we are currently living in unprecedented times and the landscape is changing on a daily basis. I want to continue to praise you, our community, for your support of not only your children but also our school. I have very much appreciated your willingness to work in partnership with us at this time.

As you know our school is well placed to offer continuity of learning into Term Two and this week our staff continue to prepare both online and distant learning materials should they be required. At the moment our school is planning for the following possibilities dependent upon any COVID-19 updates as advised by the Department:

Scenario 1: School resumes on the 20th of April with a full complement of students and learning returns to traditional face to face delivery at school.

Scenario 2: Continuation of a blended model of delivery. This means that the children of essential workers will be eligible to attend school to participate in face to face learning and that other students are able to access either online or print materials to continue their learning.

Last week I asked you to register your interest with Nadonna Schouten in the office if you would like printed materials supplied. If your situation has changed and you now require print materials please make contact with Nadonna as we expect that the work for Week One will be printed and placed in the mail by the end of this week so it arrives during the holidays ready for Day One of Term 2. ***It is important to note that students who are returning to school in Term Two will access the same materials as provided in the online environment via face to face learning.***

The expectation on our students regardless of which scenario occurs, will be that they will continue to apply themselves to the high standards of learning our school expects.

In the event of possible or partial school closures the following information will be helpful as we continue to provide continuity of learning.

Students:

- Set up your environment at home that allows for a quiet uninterrupted place to learn.
- Follow your normal timetable even if you are learning from home. **Teachers will be available during your normal lesson time to communicate with you via email or discussion boards through the virtual classroom platform.**
- Dedicate appropriate time to learning, reflective of a school day including homework and study time. Students will be provided a minimum of 24 hours to complete work set by teachers.
- **Expectation is that students submit the work that is set by the due date.** Student engagement **will be monitored** during this time and communication will occur with both the student and/or their parents as required.
- Students may be requested by teachers to virtually attend a “live” online learning event at a set time in order to collaborate with their peers (this will occur in their normal lesson times)
- Check school email and virtual classroom elearn.eq.edu.au each morning and afternoon for the most up to date information on subjects and resources required for learning.

- Continue to take holistic care of yourself. Each virtual classroom has online support material for you to access. Mr Masters and the support team will provide both daily and weekly challenges and tips to support you both physically and emotionally during the time. Mr Masters will be able to be reached via his email address or through the school phone number 07 46390444.
- Access IT support at the following email address itsupport@wilsonshs.eq.edu.au
- **Please Note: the only email address that students are able use to communicate with your teachers is your school email address.** Staff have been instructed not to respond to any other email address other than your school email address.

As you know our **Parents and Caregivers** are always an important part of the learning process and even more so for students that are either learning via online or printed materials. Some suggestions from our school that might assist you at this time include:

- Helping students to designate an area within the house that allows for learning during the school day.
- Ensuring that students are participating in the learning required at the appropriate times. *For example if a student normally has English from 10.10 to 11.20 am on a Tuesday the expectation will be that they will be **accessing the English work at this time and an English teacher will be available online to answer any questions or to provide assistance**.*
- Communicating with your child so you are aware of the “set tasks” required to be submitted.
- Communicating with our school as required. If you or your child has a question about the curriculum being covered please make contact with the normal class teacher in the first instance, and then followed by the subject Head of Department if required. **Staff email addresses are provided in the school diary as well as each virtual classroom.**
- Accessing social and emotional wellbeing support. Mr Masters and the support team continue to be available and can be contacted either by our school phone number or email. Next Term the Student Support Team will continue to be available to provide support and advice to families struggling with helping their child engage in learning materials at home. Our team will regularly review student online attendance levels and submission of tasks (both online and print materials) and initiate contact with families if students are not engaging as expected. Members of the support team are always open to ideas and feedback from parents, and are here to assist you during these difficult times.

As a school we understand that students may have forgotten or may not know how to access different aspects required for online learning. As a school we have attempted to provide solutions to any barriers to learning. Below are a list of YouTube videos available for both you and your child to access to aid in the learning process:

- Accessing your Virtual Classroom from home <https://youtu.be/8aOUVBx6mFo>
- Accessing School email <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmwP77TygLk>
- Accessing Mighty Minds Portal https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgQPGLo_eiw
- Accessing myQCE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_5De-hK4M0
- Accessing Virtual Classroom Blackboard App <https://youtu.be/aKmnkX8X54E>

- Download and install Blackboard App
- Enter **Learning Place** in the text box and then select **Learning Place DoE**
- Students enter username and password

QCAA has provided advice to schools as communicated recently to our Year 12s. The content materials provided in the virtual classroom for our Year 12 students relates to Unit 4 which was always scheduled to begin on the first day of Term Two.

Once again I will require the assistance of our parent/carer community as I make preparations and plan for Term Two Scenarios. So that I can ensure that I have the required staffing mix both online and face to face, **I will once again shortly provide a survey link with two options for schooling under Scenario 2 (as above) in Term Two.** I anticipate that we will have further numbers of students in attendance into Term Two if the current situation is prolonged. The survey will once again ask you to enter your child details along with your preferred option from the two options listed.

Option 1 – Your child will be attending school and participate in face to face lessons in our learning environment accessing the same materials as provided in the online environment.

Option 2 – Your child will access our online or print learning materials and you will be responsible for ensuring that this learning continues in the event of a school closure.

These are the only two options and one must be selected. In order for me to plan I need for you to submit the option that you believe will best suit your family needs. We will attempt to be somewhat flexible but in order to plan, we are going to need as firm a response as is possible at this time. **This survey will be open until 5pm Saturday 11th of April** which is at the end of the first week of the scheduled holiday break.

Attached to this letter is advice from the Department of Education for Parents and carers to support children and young people at this time. Our school website contains all of my updates that have been sent out during this period of time and I encourage you to access them [here](#) if you need to revisit any information supplied in these.

I would like to wish our community a restful and most importantly very safe holiday period over the next two weeks. Our school will continue to keep you informed with relevant information regarding Term Two closer to the end of the holidays.

Yours faithfully,



Marcus Jones
Principal