

17th March 2020

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

64 Adelaide Rd, Victor Harbor
South Australia 5211

P 08 8552 8880 **F** 08 8552 8833
E admin@encounter.sa.edu.au
encounter.sa.edu.au

ABN 87 346 799 642

Dear Parents/Carers,

As Federal and State Governments continue to provide regular updates regarding appropriate responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, Encounter is also ready to adapt accordingly.

With this in mind we have made the following decisions to maximise student and community health:

- Weekly Shine services will be divided so that social distancing protocols are observed. For Junior School, Year 3-6 students will worship at 9am with Early Learning to Year 2 following immediately after. There will be no assemblies or nursing home visits until further notice. This will be reviewed as needed.

Middle and Senior School Shine will be attended as a Middle School (7-9) or Senior School (10-12) in accordance with the home class who is leading worship. For example, if Year 8 Heysen is leading Shine then only Year 7-9 students will attend that week. Other students will have extended home class.

- Camps, excursions and all sporting events will be reviewed on a case-by-case scenario and decisions communicated to families as soon as possible.

If you choose to keep your children at home in the weeks ahead Middle and Senior School students will be able to maintain access to the curriculum via the online platforms already available. For Junior School students, Seesaw will be a valuable tool to maintain engagement with the classroom as well as our ongoing encouragement for families to play games with their kids, encourage outside play, as well as read, cook and paint. Given the nature of how content is presented, teachers will not be able to provide additional work for students who are not on campus.

Should there be a confirmed case (student or staff member) of COVID-19 the College will close for at least 24 hours to enable the appropriate measures to be implemented. In addition to this we urge all Encounter families to adhere to all Government recommendations in regard to social distancing, personal hygiene and travel-related quarantine.

Yesterday, I attended a webinar with the Premier, Minister for Education, the SA Chief Public Health Officer and other Principals. The advice above is consistent with the recommendations made.

Staff will be briefed on these matters this afternoon by Penny McKenzie and Tori Weiss. We will provide further updates as they are required.

Although we are experiencing a unique and challenging situation at present, I am confident we have the support of one another as an Encounter community. Significantly we also know that our gracious and loving God knows our every need, listens to our prayers and provides comfort, strength and assurance in our times of doubt and uncertainty.

Sincerely,



Kelvin Grivell
Principal

Looks like school, feels like home...
encounter.sa.edu.au