

**COVID-19 # 2 UPDATE**

[www.aspirisps.wa.edu.au](http://www.aspirisps.wa.edu.au)

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of March.**

Dear School Community,

As mentioned in my update on Monday, our staff in your school have been working tirelessly to minimise the risks resulting from the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Again, I reassure all families that we will do everything practically possible to maintain the safety and security of our school community, and this includes confidential handling of family information.

The virulence and impact of the COVID-19 spread is changing every day, and we must do all we can to slow it down so that our Health Department can continue to provide a high-quality service to those who may be affected. The opposite of this is a system that cannot cope with the real day to day demand. So, this is why I am asking for your partnership in keeping our school community as healthy and as safe as we can.

Naturally, there will be a lot of confusion and questions. We welcome your questions and will direct you to the right place for more information, so if you're worried, please contact the school. We are happy to help... and so is your General Practitioner. If the question is about health of your child and family – go there first.

There remains no indication that our school will be shutdown either pre or post the coming holiday period.

Should you choose to self-isolate your children at any time, please email me at [noel.morgan@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:noel.morgan@education.wa.edu.au). In addition, there is an added component that allows for this to occur upon the advice of a medical practitioner. Please include this in your email message.

Please note that it still the position of the school on direction from the Department of Education and the Teachers Union that no work will be sent home for students undertaking voluntary self-isolation.

There has been some planning and redevelopments since Monday.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES – new information**

- On Tuesday, the school Principal and our School Board Executive, Mr Michael Wiltshire and Mrs Monique Stephens, discussed the format of future School Board meetings (for the medium term) and information sharing- therefore the upcoming face-to-face meetings will be postponed until further notice.
- Events that involve students gathering together for incursions and all excursions have now been cancelled until further notice.
- All school assemblies have now been postponed for ALL of Semester 1.
- After school programs are all now cancelled (not OSH Club), with the exception of Senior Choir at this time.
- We now ask that parents drop all children off at the classroom door and not come into the classroom.
- After 2 days of critically focused observation, our recess and lunch breaks will remain as they are, as we are satisfied that we can maintain the current separation areas in place. There will be no change to Kindy and Pre-Primary times.
- Please ensure all email addresses are up to date and can be accessed remotely from home.
- All recess and lunchtime eating will remain in our designated areas and supervised by classroom teachers, to ensure no sharing of food, and to reinforce hygiene practices.
- Students, transitioning between classes and rooms will walk in single file.
- All children are to leave the school grounds with parents on the bell – as articulated previously. This was well done on Wednesday.

- As mentioned previously, students will not be permitted to remain on site after the school bell unless attending an approved organised activity.

### **HEALTH & HYGIENE PRACTICES- as mentioned previously, and added to since Monday 16/3/20:**

- Parents are asked to keep children at home if they are unwell.
- Children will not be permitted to play on any of the school playground equipment after the final bell.
- Our cleaners have ramped up their cleaning processes throughout the school.
- Handwashing must occur on school site before eating, after the toilet and after a break in the playground.
- No face touching (self and others).
- Soap dispensers are full every day.
- Hand washing songs that promote an effective washing time are being promoted through the school.
- Paper towel is replenished every day.
- Please discuss with your child the need to be highly respectful about the resources provided in the school bathrooms (resources are finite, and we have had socially inappropriate actions that impact on our resource levels and the respect for the work of our cleaners).
- No shaking hands.
- No sharing drink bottles or food.

### **UPDATE FOR THIS WEEK**

- If possible students should not arrive prior to 8.25am.

### **PLEASE NOTE: UPDATE TO TRAVEL ADVICE**

All students and staff members who have travelled from or transited through ANY international destination must now self-isolate for 14 days before returning to school. Should they develop symptoms within this time, please attend a COVID-19 clinic or call the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080 and advise the school in writing or by calling.

**We recommend any non-essential travel be reviewed and postponed to another time.**

### **KEY POINTS TO FAMILIARISE YOURSELVES WITH:**

1. Children are to be picked up at 2.40pm unless attending before / after school care
2. Children are not permitted to play on any of the school play equipment before and after school.
3. Ensure your contact details are up to date- please contact the office
4. What parents can do to help control the spread of the virus- check websites
5. If your child is unwell keep them at home
6. Check other updates for complete and cumulative information.

## WHAT PARENTS CAN DO TO HELP CONTROL THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS

- As mentioned in recent correspondence, Aspiri PS has already put in place general hygiene reminders for students. **Please reinforce this with your child/ren.**
- Ongoing: Please have a conversation with your children about the hygiene practices, especially no sharing of drink bottles and food. This will always be reinforced by all of our school staff.

## 6. IMPORTANT LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-covid-19-countries.htm>

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/news-media/current-alerts/novel-coronavirus>

<https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/>

Department of Education

<https://www.dese.gov.au/news/coronavirus-covid-19>

Department of Health

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>

Thank you all for assisting in these important containment and risk minimisation measures. Updates will be forwarded as required, and will be available on the school website: [www.aspirips.wa.edu.au](http://www.aspirips.wa.edu.au)

Thank you for your ongoing support to our wonderful school and for supporting the greater interests of the health of our community.

Kindest regards

Noel Morgan

PRINCIPAL