



9 April 2020

'I CAME THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE
AND HAVE IT TO THE FULL.'
(JOHN 10:10)

Dear Parents/Guardians

I write in regard to the outcome of the review of our Learning Continuity Plan following the recent survey of students, staff and parents. I would like to thank all members of the College community for your treasured comments of affirmation recognising the hard work of our dedicated staff and for the constructive feedback that will enable us to improve and refine the delivery of remote learning.

I am buoyed by the number of respondents in each category of students, staff and parents, as I believe it indicates robust engagement by all parties in the home learning programme.

Number of Respondents Per Category

Category	Students	Staff	Parents
No. of Respondents	544	59	264

Some of the most significant areas that have been modified or improved based on the feedback across all respondents include:

Timetable

Scheduling adjustments to the timetable in the Junior School, as well as the Middle and Senior Schools, to reduce pressure and allow for active brain breaks and movement during the day.

Junior School

The Junior School will provide daily activities for Religious Education, English and Mathematics. Weekly activities will be provided each Monday for the other Learning Areas that can be scheduled by parents throughout the week, as deemed appropriate. Classroom teachers will be online to interact with students between 8.30am to 12.50pm.

Middle and Senior Schools

Students will follow their normal timetable with periods running for 40 minutes rather than 50 minutes. This allows 10 minutes at the end of each period to change over for the next period. During this time students should get up, move about and reset for the next period. To some extent, this mirrors the time students move between classes.

Attendance

Attendance will be recorded twice daily for Junior, Middle and Senior Schools, alleviating the need to record attendance each period in the Middle and Senior Schools.

Junior School

AM attendance must be completed prior to 8:50am. This will generate a text message to parents if students have not engaged in learning for the day. PM attendance is to be collected prior to lunchtime at 12.40pm using the platform advised by the class teacher.

Middle and Senior Schools

AM attendance is to be recorded by HTG Teachers and must be completed prior to 8:50am. This will generate a text message to parents if students have not engaged in learning for the day. PM attendance will be entered by the House Coordinator and is to be collected during the ten minute period prior to lunchtime at 12.40pm using Google Classroom.

Video Conferencing

The capacity for video conferencing has been extended to include students in Years Three to Six and the Middle School.

Junior School

Teachers of students in Junior School should predominately keep to text and audio communication. Video communication should be pre-recorded. Teachers are encouraged to ensure a variety of mediums are used to engage and connect with students each day.

Teachers in Years Three to Six may choose to engage in video conferencing using Google Hangouts Meet with small groups of students as part of their teacher guided instruction for English and Mathematics.

Middle and Senior Schools

Teachers of students in the Middle and Senior School may use Microsoft Teams video conferencing to support lessons where appropriate. When using video conferencing, students must be appropriately dressed in line with the Student Uniform Policy. Background settings should be considered and in line with the College Code of Conduct.

Parent Pastoral Contact

- The parent survey overwhelmingly (80.3% of respondents) supported fortnightly pastoral contacts from the College. Pastoral contacts are in addition to academic and attendance contacts that will occur during the course of remote learning. The College Social Worker and Psychologist will continue to offer counselling service to students.
- Parents also showed a preference for email/Direct Message (85.6% of respondents) contact rather than phone or video contact. The College would prefer the Direct Message system through SEQTA, as this system maintains a register of contact. Teachers are still encouraged to contact parents by phone where necessary.

Direct Message Contact

- Teachers have been reminded to clearly identify the Year Level/Class of the student and the Learning Area in which the message relates in the subject line when sending a Direct Message to a whole class or year level. This will assist parents to clearly identify to which child and class the message applies.

Formative and Summative Assessments

Assignments and formative assessments will continue during the period of remote learning. Teachers are encouraged to provide students with non-weighted tests to complete at home as a formative process to guide students' progress. The following points should be noted:

- All summative assessments have been postponed.
- Assessment types and form may be modified to suit remote learning.
- Assessments practices and course requirements, particularly in the Senior School, will follow the guidelines updated from time to time by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). Details will be communicated to students and parents immediately they become available.
- At this stage all Externally Set Tasks (EST) for Year Twelve General students have been postponed until further notice.

Lesson Availability

Junior School teachers have been requested to upload lessons to relevant communication platforms by 8.30am each day.

Middle and Senior School teachers have been requested to ensure lessons are uploaded to SEQTA by 8.30am each day.

Student Wellbeing

Students' wellbeing is paramount during this extended period of learning from home. Our College Counsellors, Mrs Joanne Betti, Social Worker and Mrs Charisse Hay, Psychologist are available to provide support and may be contacted via Direct Message. Counselling may be offered via Microsoft Teams, but this requires parental permission. Permission forms are available by contacting the relevant counsellor.

Instrumental Music Tuition

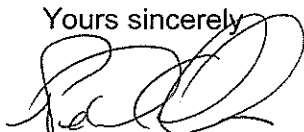
Mrs Kerri Sloper, Instrumental Music Teacher, has requested to use *Google Hangouts Meet* video conferencing when delivering her lessons to students. As this involves one-to-one conferencing one parent must be present during the lessons and parents must complete a permission slip prior to commencement. Permission slips are available from Mrs Sloper. Other instrumental music tutors may offer video conferencing using the same protocols.

Just like the evolving situation with the management of the spread of the Coronavirus, our process and procedures for delivering remote learning will also continue to develop. Constructive feedback from students, staff and parents is essential in order to provide the best learning opportunities for our students under very challenging circumstances.

Once again, I would like to thank all members of the College community for your ongoing support for the College, but more importantly for our students, your children, as we continue to navigate these very unusual times.

In a recent prayer vigil, Pope Francis read from a passage in the Gospel of Matthew which tells of how Jesus and his disciples were struck by a sudden storm while sailing on the Sea of Galilee. He said, 'We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other.' Let us continue to be people of hope and to row together.

Yours sincerely



Peter Collins
Principal