

28 January 2020



Dear Families

Re Novel Coronavirus Information

The health of our Sancta Maria College community is a priority for all. This communication wishes to advise our families with the latest information we have received regarding the evolving international concern for the Novel Coronavirus.

This is a new virus and its specific nature is currently unclear, however it appears that you can have the virus at an early stage and not be showing any symptoms. The incubation period is currently considered to be 14 days.

We encourage that parents and caregivers of students, including international students, delay the start of the school year for 14 days and voluntarily stay away if the students have experienced any of the following:

- Travelled to Wuhan or the greater China region over the recent holiday period.
- Travelled to Hong Kong, including in-transit stops.
- Suspect that they may have been in contact with the virus.
- Are exhibiting a high temperature, cold or flu-like symptoms.

This will safeguard and ensure the safety of all our students, families, staff and wider community.

If your child/student develops any flu-like symptoms including coughing and difficulty breathing please

- Contact the National Healthline on 0800 611 116 or your doctor.
- Notify the School Student Centre (Mrs Blackburn) on Extn 273 of the reason for their absence.
- To minimise any risk, we recommend using a surgical facemask, regular use of a hand sanitiser, washing and drying of hands.
- The school requires that your doctor certifies and confirms that your child/student is fit to return to school.

The Ministry of Education is working closely with the Ministry of Health to provide schools with the most relevant and up-to-date information so that we are able to keep you informed.

Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. J. Moore'.

Louise Moore
Principal