



Many Ways to Excellence

# Sunnybank

## STATE HIGH SCHOOL

27 March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope this message finds you and your family safe and healthy. I am writing again to keep you updated on the changing situation in response to COVID-19 as of Thursday 26 March, 2020.

The Queensland Government has announced that an additional five (5) Student Free Days will be in place next week. This means that while schools will remain open, the Term 1 break will start early for students and they will not attend school next week, unless they are children of essential workers or vulnerable children. The school will provide supervision for these children if they attend next week.

For the majority of our student body this means that the Easter holidays will commence a week early and will run for a total of 3 weeks from Monday 30 March through to Friday 17 April. During the Student Free Days our staff will be working to enhance the online learning program for each of the subjects for each year level.

The online platforms already utilised by the school, The Learning Place and One Note Class Notebook, will be further developed to support students ability to access appropriate learning in the circumstance that health advice determines that it is unsafe for students to return to school on Monday 20 April. If this decision is made our online mode of instruction will commence.

While your children are at home this week the Queensland Government has asked parents and caregivers to 'maintain the continuity of learning at home', there are no expectations that you deliver 'home schooling' in your home rather that you provide 'learning at home'. I encourage parents, over the next week with your children at home, to support students to continue their learning by accessing the Department of Education's excellent learning resources at [learning@home](mailto:learning@home). It is also a wonderful opportunity for the family to come together and connect and use all kinds of normal routines, like cooking, gardening and sharing of hobbies (photography or music), as new learning experiences.

You are also encouraged to stay informed of the latest health developments relating to COVID-19 by regularly visiting the Queensland Health website: [www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19)

I realise these latest developments may create challenges for parents and caregivers, both in terms of disruption for students and for families who need to manage supervision of children at home. Please be assured that the decision has only been taken as a necessary response to the evolving COVID-19 situation.

The Department of Education will continue to keep schools up-to-date with any further changes to schooling over the coming days and weeks and I will continue to provide parents with this information as it becomes available. Further information for parents, including Questions and Answers have been developed by the Department of Education and can be found at <https://qed.qld.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media/novel-coronavirus/frequently-asked-questions-for-parents>

To support our community, the staff of Sunnybank State High School will do everything we can to provide the best education possible in these uncertain times. Together if we all enact our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Readiness we will certainly ensure that we all do our part in 'flattening the curve'.

Our whole school community wishes all students, parents and caregivers a positive and safe social distancing Easter break while staying at home.

Yours sincerely



Leah Fountaine  
Principal  
Sunnybank State High School

Boorman Street, Sunnybank Q 4109  
PO Box 2, Sunnybank Q 4109

**P: (07) 3323 8111**

E: [Principal@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:Principal@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au)

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