



## **Covid-19 Update 2 September- Lockdown Extension**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our third week of lockdown and online learning, I hope that the burst of sunshine and warmth over the past few days has provided some respite from the lockdown. I have again this week been in awe of the manner in which our students, families and staff have adapted to this new learning environment. I understand that for many families this has not been an easy transition and would encourage the families of students who may need additional support to reach out to their PCA or House Coordinator in the first instance.

As you would be aware, the Chief Minister announced on Tuesday that the ACT Lockdown Restrictions will be extended until **midnight Friday 17 September**. Under these restrictions, ACT schools will continue learning online for the remainder of the Term 3. In relation to Term 4 learning arrangements, we will be guided, as always, by ACT Health and the current restrictions and guidelines that are in place. It is unlikely that we will have any specific details as to what these will be until the first week of the holiday break. Once details become available these will be disseminated to families through our usual communication channels.

Please continue to monitor the ACT Covid-19 website for the most up to date information in relation to restrictions and Covid-19 exposure locations/sites <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/> For those families living in regional NSW, please also consult the NSW website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19> .

### **Essential worker student supervision:**

Supervision continues to be available for students of essential workers only. Students will be supervised while they access their learning online with the other members of their classes, including their teachers, who are at home. Students will need to wear a mask while they are on site. The registration process for those students who need to attend school during the lockdown period is available on Daranet. The link for the registration to attend each day can be found [HERE](#).

### **Events:**

#### **Friday 3 September- Charity Walk 'Reset and Refresh' Day**

A reminder that as we are not able to hold our annual Charity Walk tomorrow, this day has been allocated as a 'reset and refresh' day after three weeks of online learning. There will be no formal classes or Teams conferences scheduled tomorrow and we would encourage families to make the most of the extended ability to exercise and be outdoors. We look forward to students being online for their PT class at 8:45am on Monday morning refreshed and ready for the final two weeks of the term. Over the past 50 years, the Charity Walk not only served as a wonderful community event but also the major fundraising activity for two charities supported by the College: St Vincent de Paul – Canberra/ Goulburn and Caritas Australia. Over recent years students and families have raised approximately \$26,000 annually with 100% being donated to the two beneficiaries.

Although we are not able to hold this event as a community in person this year, we are asking our families and community members who are able to donate to do so using the QKR! App.

#### **Winter Sports- End of Season and Presentation Evenings**

The extension of the lockdown restrictions has meant that the final weeks of the winter sporting competitions have been adjusted. Communication has been sent to the players and families involved in Rugby, Netball, Hockey and Basketball outlining the specific adjustments to the season and the format and timing of the presentation events. Unfortunately, the Senior Sports Dinner calendared to be held on Wednesday 15 September has been postponed until further notice. Our hope is that once restrictions are eased this event can go ahead in a format that adheres to the current health advice.

### **Leadership Assembly**

The Leadership Assembly calendared for Friday 10 September has been rescheduled for Wednesday 15 September. This will be a live event during the Pastoral Tutor lesson time on this day. Students will access the Assembly with their PT class.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews – 16 September**

The College will be holding the Parent Teacher Interviews on Thursday 16 September from **4:30pm to 6:30pm**. They will go ahead as Online Teams meetings and a Daranet Hub page is being built to facilitate easy access for parents and students to attend. This will be a great opportunity to maintain the communications channels and feedback systems we have in place to support student growth. Further information on how to book meetings and the technical aspects of the night will be distributed to families next week when the mid-semester reports become available.

### **Collection of Resources and Items from the College:**

In light of the further extension of the ACT lockdown the College is offering students a brief opportunity to collect essential items from their locker in order to continue working from home until the end of the term. Families should only take up this offer to collect items that are essential for home learning to continue.

Details:

- **Tuesday 7 September**
- **2:30pm - 4:30pm**
- Students only, parents are not able to collect items from the College
- Wearing of a mask is mandatory and entry is via Reception
- Students must sanitise their hands on entry and exit to the College
- Must sign in using the CBR App

We appreciate this timing may not work for all but it is important that as a community we follow the guidelines put in place by ACT Health and minimise unessential movement at this time.

### **Financial Support:**

Families who are experiencing changed financial circumstances due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, are encouraged to contact the College Business Manager, Hugh Boulter, to discuss support that may be available to you. He can be contacted via email on [hugh.boulter@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:hugh.boulter@daramalan.act.edu.au).

### **2022 Scholarship Applications:**

The closing date for 2022 Scholarship Applications has been extended to **Friday 17 September 2021**. Application information is available on the College website <http://www.daramalan.act.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships/>. In response to the current lockdown, completed Application Forms, together with the relevant supporting documentation, are able to be emailed confidentially to [principal@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:principal@daramalan.act.edu.au).

### **Uniform Shop:**

Under the current Lockdown Restrictions, the College Uniform Shop remains closed. Should the restrictions in relation to retail change over the coming weeks enabling the Uniform Shop to open, these details including the opening hours will be posted on the College website.

As always, should you have any concerns please contact your student's pastoral leader, via email, in the first instance. Their contacts can be found on Daranet at [Pastoral Contact details](#). Likewise, if you are experiencing internet issues please email the Pastoral Leader so that we can look at how best to support your student in their learning.

Please continue to keep safe and well as we enter the final two weeks of Term 3.

Best wishes

Rachel Davies

Principal

2 September 2021