



RANGEVILLE STATE SCHOOL

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"Learning, Achieving & Growing Every Day"

16th March 2020

Novel Coronavirus Update 20_03_16A

A special message to the parents and caregivers of children at Rangeville State School

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I am writing to update you about the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

As you are aware, health authorities across the nation and globally are continuing to respond to the emergence of the Coronavirus that has emanated from China.

Our school always follows the advice of public health authorities in these circumstances and I thank you for your support to date as we navigate this situation.

Under recently announced requirements for self-isolation following return from overseas I can confirm that a school staff member and another family who attend the school have, as a precautionary measure, voluntarily placed themselves in self-isolation for a period of 14 days. We thank the staff member and family for their proactive action as we continue to work with health authorities to contain the risks associated with COVID-19.

This is a timely reminder of the need for us all to continue to be alert to the need to act protectively and in the interests of each other's health during this time.

I have been liaising with the Department of Education and Queensland Health on this matter and there remains a low risk in relation to our school. Queensland Health will advise our school if there is a confirmation in this case.

I wanted to make this information available to you so that you can be alert to your own child's health, particularly if they have medical conditions that might make them more susceptible to falling ill. Again, there is little likelihood of transmission within our school and I am advised that there is no need for other students or staff to be isolated at this time.

Across the state, communities we remain alert to the potential spread of the virus and how it may impact our communities. I would like to reassure you that the health and well-being of your children remains our number one priority.

Queensland Health is urging all communities to continue to be extra vigilant about health and hygiene at this time and to that end, have asked us to remind our community of simple but important hygiene practices that support public health by:

- Vigorous hand washing with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rubs;
- Covering your nose and mouth with a tissue or flexed elbow when coughing or sneezing; and
- Avoiding contact with anyone who has flu-like symptoms.

We have these strategies in place in our school and children have also been reminded of them. We will continue to stress the importance of these behaviours and I would appreciate your support similarly at home as I know you would normally do.

The current advice about instances requiring self-isolation is as follows:

- If you are returning from international travel you are now required to undertake a period of 14 days self-isolation upon arrival back into Australia
- If you have been in close contact with a proven case of coronavirus, you must isolate yourself for 14 days from the date of last contact with the confirmed case.
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For more information refer to the Queensland Health website:

<http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/217/838/novel-coronavirus>

or call 13Health.

Queensland Health continues to actively manage this situation across the state and I will keep you informed on the back of any further advice from Queensland Health.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our students and community healthy and hygienic.

Yours in Education

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'BK', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Ben Kidd

Principal – Rangeville State School.