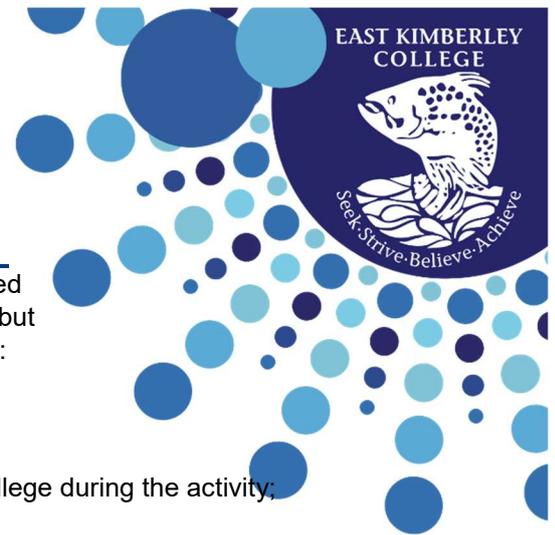


# COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update 1

## East Kimberley College Families

17 March, 2020



### Camps and Excursions

Effective immediately, all non-essential camps and activities will be postponed until further notice. Camp and Excursion Applications can still be submitted but will be considered against the following criteria, inclusive of but not limited to:

- Whether it is curriculum-based and an essential activity;
- The geographic location of the activity;
- The extent of staff and student exposure to individuals external to the College during the activity;
- If it is an overnight activity;
- The number of overall participants and social distancing.



The following activities for the remainder of Term 1 have now been postponed:

- Primary and Secondary Assemblies;
- Kimberley Clontarf Shield Broome (Week 7);
- Year 7 Parent Breakfast (Week 7);
- Senior School Ball (Week 8);
- FTD Lake Argyle Camp (Week 8);
- Clontarf Dockers Shield (Week 8);
- Secondary Parent-Teacher Evening (Week 9);
- Primary and Secondary Swimming Carnivals (Week 10);
- Desert Dust Up, Halls Creek (Week 10);
- Year 7 Movie night (Week 10);
- ECE Mother's Day breakfast.

NB: All Term 2 Activities will be reviewed, including those currently on the School Calendar. Staff are encouraged to continue to submit applications for camps and excursions but to consider the criteria outlined above. The College's decisions regarding the postponing of camps and activities remains final.

### Further Preventative Measures

To protect our community, the College is minimising external visitors to the College from outside the Kimberley, for example we have cancelled incoming Prac Teachers.

### Staff Attending Meetings Off-Site

EKC Staff are required to (where practicable) participate in meetings external to the College via telephone, teleconference or online (i.e. case conferences). Any face-to-face meetings EKC staff are required to attend must be pre-approved by Exec. Staff are to be reminded that Exec meet each Tuesday and to be mindful that requests will be tabled at this forum.

### Cooking and Hygiene Practices

Appropriate hygiene practices must be monitored and administered for all activities involving the preparation of food. Students must be supervised at all times and staff to ensure safe hygiene practises are being followed. Under no circumstances are students to prepare food for other students and must only prepare food for their own consumption (i.e. Breakfast Clubs, emergency lunches at academies, etc). Students engaging in "Enterprise Programs" such as Mango Mob or are catering for in-school events and/or fundraising is now suspended until further notice. Staff continue to have the capacity to prepare food for students, however, please be sure to exercise safe food handling practices.

### Recess and Lunch break preventative measures

In response to the Department's recommendation to reduce the number of students sharing confined spaces, we will be introducing new eating areas during recess and lunch for Primary students, effective **Wednesday 18th March 2020**.



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**Year 6** students will continue to eat on the **East side of the Argyle Block**

**Year 4 and 5** students will eat along the **East side of the Homestead Block** (Facing the PA)

**Year 3** students will eat along the **West side of the Homestead Block** outside the Year 3 classrooms and on the canteen seating if necessary

**Year 1 and 2** students will continue to eat in the **Undercover Area**

**ECE** students will continue to eat in the **ECE Area**

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An amended duty roster will be circulated by close of business Tuesday 17th March, which will involve minor changes to supervision areas during eating times.

Changes will need to be made to Early Years "shared fruit" breaks. Please ensure that students are not sharing fruit from a communal plate and that staff manage distribution of fruit.

## Health and Hygiene

We have completed a full audit of hand soap and hand towel throughout the College. It has been noted that there are a few stations that do not have hand towel facilities and we are working behind the scenes to rectify this situation as soon as possible. All stations have hand soap dispensers or pump bottles. We need to ensure hand washing procedures are demonstrated in all areas of the College. Unfortunately, we are unable to source hand sanitizer at this stage due to the shortage all over the country, and the world.

We have met with our cleaning staff yesterday at 2pm to ensure they are aware of the importance of their cleaning duties in light of COVID-19. The following items were discussed:

- Paper towel to be in all handwashing areas;
- Soap to be available at all times in handwashing areas;
- Drink fountains to be cleaned daily with disinfectant;
- Surface areas and door handles to be cleaned daily with disinfectant;
- New cloths for each classroom.



## Follow the Dream

The Follow the Dream program will continue in it's after school tuition capacity only and continue to reinforce the College-wide management approach to COVID-19. The proposed Year 7/8 camp and community sundowner will therefore be postponed until a later date. This primarily affects nine (9) senior students who will be devastated with their inability to travel to Perth and Adelaide for their recently awarded scholarships, some as recently as yesterday.

I will speak directly with staff who work with these students and endeavour to find them opportunities at a time that does not place our students or community at risk.

## Clontarf Academy

To ensure the wellbeing of our staff and academy members during this period, the Clontarf Foundation as a whole has effectively immediately cancelled:

- All Clontarf camps.
- All before and after school activities, including our training sessions, pancakes and after school sports, trips, etc.
- The well acknowledged and respected "Clontarf Handshake".
- All health checks.

Essentially, all Clontarf activities before and after school hours will be cancelled until further notice. Our Academy will be working closely with the College to ensure we continue to provide a strong engaging program for our young men. Extra



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efforts will be made by our staff to utilise the small time we have, however, we see this as an opportunity to further strengthen our relationships.

More time will be spent ensuring our young men are engaging in their classroom work, using proper hygiene methods and monitoring their wellbeing. Our Academy will continue to work closely with the East Kimberley College in ensuring we maintain a "one mind one voice" approach.



## Girls Academy

As an organisation the Kununurra Girls Academy is taking steps to ensure the good health of our staff, students and their families. We are working closely with East Kimberley College and fully support their policies. We endeavour to mirror their precautions to protect our community, as taking action now will reduce the risk. The following measures will be implemented effective Tuesday 17 March 2020 until further notice:

- All shared food i.e. Healthy cook-up will be prepared by GA staff;
- Students must make their own food within the Academy and not share foods;
- Hand sanitiser and hand wash is readily available.

The following program/activities have been cancelled immediately:

- Wednesday Footy training sessions;
- Shining Bright Rewards activity;
- External agency visits from outside Kununurra district;
- Girls Academy Advisory Committee Meetings.

The following programs/activities will continue as usual:

- Morning Pick-ups and home visits
- Breakfast Club
- Emergency lunches
- YR 9/10 contact time
- YR 7 Clubs
- In class support
- GA Awards lunch

Term Two's calendar of events is currently under review and families will be notified of changes in the near future.

Please note, if something is not explicitly outlined in a weekly update you can safely assume it is business as usual and it will proceed.

If you are unsure please do not hesitate to ask, directing all questions to the Executive Team.

Now more than ever, we need to embrace an infinite and flexible mindset. A finite mindset of opportunism, selfishness and panic will hurt us all in the long run. Let us embrace generosity, selflessness and calm caution as we navigate this together, in a united manner.

We thank you all most sincerely in anticipation for exercising considered judgement, and putting aside personal opinions as directives are respected and actioned to ensure it is business as usual at EKC.

**Kate Wilson, Principal**

