

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you would be aware, the Premier indicated that NSW will shut down all non-essential services from 12:00pm today. The Premier announced during her press conference this morning that schools will remain open, however, for practical reasons, parents are encouraged to keep their children at home. For all students in NSW there will be one mode of learning – online learning.

This mode of learning will be in place for the remainder of Term 1 and will be reviewed prior to students returning to school for Term 2.

As I have previously indicated, the School had planned to trial online delivery of coursework over Wednesday – Friday of this week. This plan has now been superseded and we will be working towards online learning from tomorrow onwards.

As we make a hard and fast transition to online learning, staff will start to post work, mainly in their google classrooms from tomorrow. This will require patience from students and parents, as unlike the university systems, teachers within the school have not been provided with a break from face to face delivery to enable the content to be created.

Students who attend school from tomorrow will be supervised in collapsed classes with the expectation that they will be completing the same online work that is sent out to students who are not attending school. This will be in place for Years 7-12, the IEC and the Support Unit.

The NSW Department of Education's website can be accessed from the link below.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/>

On this site there is a section titled Learning from home. Please follow the link called access our resources. There are a number of resources on this page that will assist you.

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) are the authority responsible for overseeing the Higher School Certificate in NSW. They will meet tomorrow to determine how schools should proceed with Assessment Tasks and preparation for the HSC Examinations. If students have an assessment task scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March they will run as programmed. Students in Years 11 and 12 will be able, with parent's permission, to attend school for only the time that their task is scheduled for. I will provide a further advice over the next two days.

Mindful of student health and wellbeing, we are considering a range of other online or small group activities for the next few months. We want to maintain student creativity, skills, physical and emotional wellbeing as well. We will draw on our entertaining staff to boost the morale of our school community.

As we move into this new mode of learning I ask everyone for their patience and understanding.

David Osland

**Principal**

Chatswood High School

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020