

29 January 2020

Dear Parents and Care-Givers,

This statement was sent to all schools by the Department of Education WA today.

*“TO ALL PRINCIPALS*

*You would have seen in the media a continuing concern regarding the Novel Coronavirus.*

*The Department of Health advises that the risk of transmission remains low; they are monitoring the situation. We are acting on their advice and in conjunction with the Catholic and independent sectors, are implementing necessary precautions for all public and non-government schools across Western Australia.*

- *Health advise that if a student has been in contact with someone who has contracted the virus, they should seek medical advice and stay away from school until they are clear of symptoms for 14 days.*
- ***As an extra precaution, if a student has travelled to or through China or Hong Kong in the past two weeks, parents are asked to keep them away from school for a period of 14 days from the date they returned to Perth.***
- *Any Australian who has returned from Hubei Province of China must isolate themselves from the workplace for a period of 14 days from the day they left Hubei Province.*

*This is a precaution as the incubation period for this virus can be up to 14 days. After that time, and no symptoms, the student may attend school.*

*I understand some of your parents will have concerns about the risks to their children. They should be referred to the [Department of Health](http://www2.health.wa.gov.au/coronavirus)<sup>2</sup> website (www2.health.wa.gov.au/coronavirus) where there is a [factsheet for parents](#)<sup>3</sup> and access to a helpline 1800 300 243.*

*We invite Principals to direct any queries they may have to [coronavirussupport@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:coronavirussupport@education.wa.edu.au)<sup>4</sup> (for staff queries only).*

*As the lead agency, the Department of Health will monitor the situation and we will act on their advice and keep you updated as appropriate.*

*Stephen Baxter  
Deputy Director General, Schools”*

Caladenia will advise you when and if we receive updates as to the Novel Coronavirus. We will maintain a vigilance and use appropriate procedures as described above.

Kind regards,

Ted Nastasi  
Principal