



MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

ABN: 41003 864 891

KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT & WORK IS WORSHIP

www.mfis.nsw.edu.au

INFORMATION UPDATE

FROM THE BOARD OF MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Monday, 27 April 2020

Assalamualaikum

Welcome to Term 2

The Board welcomes all staff, students and parents to Term 2.

This will no doubt be a challenging time that, with goodwill and hard work, will be rewarding. It certainly will be different than what might have expected at the beginning of the year but there still will be exciting learning opportunities for students.

Education at MFIS during Term 2

I am sure you already will be aware of the decisions of the NSW Government in relation to school attendance in Term 2. These decisions are based on carefully considered advice from health professionals aimed at minimising the risks to the community from COVID-19.

The Government is hopeful, as are we all, that if the pandemic is managed successfully during the coming term, schools will be able to be open full time to all students by the beginning of Term 3. Naturally, confirmation of this will come later.

In summary, from Week 3 of Term 2 (11 May) students will return one day a week. If that does not lead to any problems, this will increase to two days a week.

It should be noted that, as was the case at the end of Term 1, parents' work commitments or other factors may compel some families to have their children attend School every day. The School will be organised to enable this.

Mr Rixon will provide full details of these arrangements.

These arrangements will be carefully monitored and adjusted as necessary and as advice from the health professionals is updated. Particular consideration also will be given as to how to best support Year 12. The approaches used by other schools and advice provided by the Association of Independent Schools will be considered closely.

Once again, the Board acknowledges the efforts of all staff in planning for the move to the 'remote learning model'. Staff worked hard to prepare teaching materials, deliver them and develop ways in which they can review their students' work and provide feedback to support their learning.

This approach brings with it significant challenges. The Board is confident that staff will address these challenges as they arise and further enhance their materials and methods as we move forward.

How can parents and other family members help?

Most of the 'remote learning models' that we will use do not enable teachers to monitor students' tasks and activities as closely as they would in a classroom. Teachers will do all they can to set up discussions with students, either verbally or through emails or videoconferencing where that is possible. In that way, they can develop an understanding of the students' work and their progress. Any assistance parents can provide in this regard will be very valuable.

Some parents will themselves be working from home as their children are studying from home. That will provide some opportunities for parents to monitor students and check if they are successfully and diligently engaging with their schoolwork.

For parents whose work requires them to be away from home, it may be more difficult. Nevertheless, any time that you can spend asking your children about their schoolwork and checking what they are doing will be very worthwhile. You may already have procedures in place at your home to talk to your children about what they do at school each day. This is even more important in the current circumstances.

It is also imperative that students and parents are aware of online safety principles. Students must always adhere to the School's procedures and codes of conduct while engaging School online accounts and platforms.

If you have concerns about your child's progress or other matters, you may raise it with the staff by telephone or email.

Finally...

This will be a challenging term but, if the whole School community strives to work hard and support the students in their learning, much good will be achieved.

Jazakallah Khairan for your ongoing support.

Wassalam

**THE BOARD
MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL**