



13 March 2020

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB,

Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Following from my previous communication in relation to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we continue to actively review and respond to any potential impact upon student and staff well-being and School operations, as the situation evolves. We have been focused on reviewing and refining our plans to ensure we respond appropriately to this unprecedented situation. Although there is inevitably disruption and concern associated with these matters, I believe the School is well-placed to manage the situation.

At the time of writing, I have not been informed of any confirmed cases of any student or staff member of Malek Fahd Islamic School. Please inform the School **immediately** if your child or any of their close contacts are diagnosed with COVID-19.

School's Precautionary Measures

The precautionary measures the School is undertaking to minimise the risk of spreading Covid-19 (Coronavirus) are as follows:

- Postponement of all external excursions until further notice.
- Postponement or cancellation of all upcoming sporting activities where travel is required via public transport until further notice. This will include PSSA Sports at all campuses.
- The provision of additional cleaners at each campus during the day.
- Request for all students (Primary and Secondary) to bring their own filled water bottles from home to minimise the use of shared facilities, such as bubblers.
- Postponement of all Parent-Teacher meetings until further notice. Parents are welcome to communicate with teachers via phone or email.
- All students will go straight to their classrooms in the morning. There will be no assemblies.

- Promoting hand hygiene and social distancing and appropriate hygiene relating to coughing and sneezing. Reminding staff and students to be washing and sanitising hands regularly and advising staff and students who are unwell not to attend the School, this includes mild flu-like symptoms and in particular, fevers or coughs.
- Advising staff and parents of the latest advice from the Department of Health for self-quarantining and testing.

I encourage parents/guardian to read the advice from the Commonwealth Department of Health regarding the Coronavirus -

<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus> NSW Health has comprehensive information available on its website at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 at the school, the following procedures will be taken:

- Notification to relevant authorities including the New South Wales Ministry of Health;
- Parents will be contacted by email and/or SMS that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 and that the school will be cleaned and closed until further notice;
- The School will follow all advice from the relevant Authorities regarding establishing close contacts and casual contacts of the diagnosed person/s and take all appropriate action.

Continuation of Learning

In the event of a School closure, students will be encouraged to continue with independent study. If the closure lasts more than one or two days, the School will put in place arrangements for the ongoing learning of students. Part of the contingency plan is to create a parent portal. Hence, we request all parents to notify the School if you have **updated your email addresses or mobile numbers**.

The School will be using these emails to create and confirm logins. Initially work will be sent through for all Primary students to their parent's email addresses and all Secondary students will receive their work on their school email addresses which they have been issued with.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day is celebrated in many countries around the world on 8th of March. It is a day when all women are recognised for their achievements. The Greenacre Secondary campus marked International Women's Day with a whole school assembly on the 10th March. The theme for this year was 'I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights' which focuses on advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The special guest for the event was Ms Arwa Abousamra who is a well respected and successful author. Arwa drew on her inspiring personal life experiences during her address. She spoke about the women in her life who helped shape her including her grandmother and mother. Arwa also gifted the school two copies of her book titled 'Tea with Arwa'. The School leader's also delivered a powerful address on women's rights in Islam and compiled a slide show presentation on gender bias and the empowerment of women.

Mr Rixon acknowledged the achievements of some modern day Muslim women like Malala Yousafzai – Pakistani Nobel Prize winner, Tawakkol Karman, another Nobel Peace Prize winner and Fatima al-Fihri, Founder of the World's First University.



Ms Houda Kbbar
Head of Wellbeing

Meet and Greet with Parents

I met with some wonderful parents at each of the campuses over an informal gathering that was organised over the last 2 weeks. Parents had the opportunity to raise any matters and issues of concern to them. I would like this to become a regular opportunity to connect with parents and the community. Dates for the upcoming meetings will be sent to parents via email at a later date.

Year 12 Practice Examination

The school will be conducting practice examinations for all Year 12 students at the end of the Term in Week 10 and 11 and continuing in Week 1 of Term 2. These examinations are not formal assessments but are designed to give students experience at sitting HSC style exams as well as the opportunity to gain further feedback on their skills and knowledge. A letter attached with the timetable will be sent home today.

Skoolbag App for Parents

The School has already moved to distributing the School Newsletters via email and through Skoolbag which was introduced in 2018. The SkoolBag app is a way of allowing parents to stay up-to date with newsletters, school events and notices. For you to be able to receive these notifications you will need to install the SkoolBag app on your phone and register. Instruction on how to do this can be found on the following website and the attached flyer below:

www.mogproducts.com.au/skoolbag/installation-instructions/ When searching for the school to add please make sure you type in Malek Fahd Islamic School and follow the steps to register.

2020 Term Dates

Please be advised the following are the dates of schooling for 2020. These dates have also been published on the school website.

Term 1 - Wed, 29th January to Thu, 9th April 2020

Term 2 - Tue, 28th April to Thu, 2nd July 2020

Term 3 - Tue, 21st July to Fri, 25th September 2020

Term 4 - Tue, 13th October to Fri, 4th December 2020

School Uniform

Parents are requested to make an appointment for fittings and uniform purchases by calling Midford directly on 0498 518 916 or by emailing malek.fahd@midford.com.au. You are also welcome to purchase uniforms online at your convenience. Your order will be filled when the store is next open. Website Address: <https://schoolshop.midford.com.au/login/passphrase:malek1989>

Kind regards,

Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal

Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and **all** school communications.

1

Download the app

Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store

2

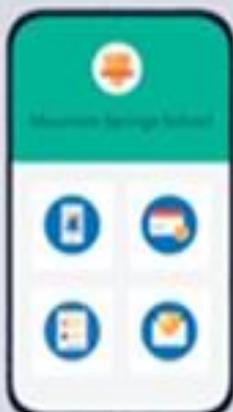
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