



17 March 2020

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB,

COVID-19 Update

Following on from my update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from Friday, 13th March 2020, I write to provide the latest update on the management of COVID-19.

Prayer at Greenacre Campus:

Student numbers at Greenacre Secondary are large, circa 900, well over the recommended number of 500, for people gathered together in a confined space. Under the guidance of our School Chaplain, Sheikh Fawaz, we have taken the decision to stagger prayer time for Greenacre Secondary students. Years 7 to 9 (boys and girls) and Years 10 to 12 (boys and girls) commencing Thursday, 19th March. Greenacre Primary students already pray in small groups.

Prayer at other campuses is staggered where there are larger numbers.

Educational Continuity Plan

As you would have seen from my correspondence over recent weeks we have been working on a number of contingency plans should the school be caused into a temporary closure due to the COVID-19 outbreak. I am writing regarding our Educational Continuity Plan, which will enable us to continue to support students in their learning.

In the event of a significant disruption to operations at the School, such as a closure of several days this plan will come into effect.

- **Year 11 and 12**

A decision has been made use Microsoft Teams (similar to Google Classroom) for Year 11 and Year 12, so teachers can continue to deliver lessons remotely in conjunction with materials emailed to your child. All secondary students have school's email account (MS Office 365 account). Training for student and staff will be undertaken this Wednesday and Thursday. Microsoft Teams will enable teachers to send and gather documents as well as to do a Skype style presentation;

- **Secondary Classes (Year 7 – 10)**

Administrative staff will have the responsibility for sending this work to students via their MFIS email accounts.

Teachers are preparing materials for students to work on. This work may be in multiple formats for example, worksheets, PowerPoint presentations, directions to complete certain tasks from text books or work booklets, directions to complete tasks on digital learning platforms, such as Education Perfect or Mathletics, links to YouTube clips and accompanying tasks etc.

- **Primary classes (all Year levels)**

Ms Mourad and our Primary Curriculum Team have compiled workbooks to support learning in each grade level. These will be able to form the basis of some of the set tasks should we need to use them. These workbooks will reinforce core skills. Other work could be in multiple formats for example, worksheets, directions to complete tasks from class workbooks and directions to complete tasks on digital learning platforms, such as Reading Eggs or Mathletics. Administrative staff will have responsibility for sending this work to parents via their email.

Hygiene

Hygiene measures continue to be implemented and reviewed in line with directions from health authorities such as: wiping down hand-rails, door knobs, desks, keyboards, hand wash, no sharing of headphones, etc. At present we have amply stock of all hygiene products.

Canteen

Each Head of Campus is overseeing the social distancing (crowding) at the Canteen. Please remind you child to be patient and wait for their turn.

Pastoral Care Support for Students: Head Space Support

As always, the health and well-being of each member of our community remains a priority, and the School is continuing to monitor the advice provided by Government and health authorities regarding schools

and the COVID-19 outbreak. The School is deeply appreciative of the support of the staff, student and parent community in managing the situation in a calm and measured way.

We acknowledge that each student will react differently to the current situation, including having feelings of uncertainty and anxiety. To this end, The Heads of Wellbeing, Ms Kbbar, Mr Khoder, in conjunction with Mr Ahmed, Deputy Principal (Pastoral Care) are developing a special session for Homeroom to address possible student concerns on the potential impact of COVID-19.

We have placed on our School website the following link that provides information on how to support your child during this time:

https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-cope-with-stress-related-to-covid-19/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=boostedpost&utm_campaign=march

If you are concerned for your child's emotional well-being please contact the Deputy Head of Campus and the Counselling Service offered at each campus.

More information will be forthcoming in respect to providing continued support over the coming weeks.

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>



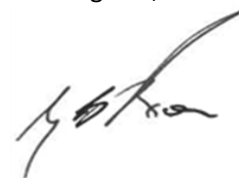
Stay informed with the SkoolBag App

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 Create an account**
Sign up in seconds with your email address
- 3 Add your school**
Search for your school and add your subscription groups

SkoolBag

Kind regards,



Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal