



# BLUE MOUNTAINS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## Blue Mountains Grammar School Ltd

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18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

To Parents and Carers

**Re: FAQ - Response to COVID-19**

The School is adhering to three overarching principles to make decisions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These principles are:

1. Following official advice;
2. Protecting the community;
3. Providing continuity of learning.

Below are the answers to frequently asked questions concerning the School's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Q1: How do I respond to sickness and infection and exposure?**

**A1:** The following table outlines the actions you should take for specific situations.

#	If your Child ...	Then you need to ...
1	Has been diagnosed with COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Keep your child at home</li><li>▪ Obtain a Doctor's Certificate clearing child's return to School</li></ul>
2	Is under medical assessment for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Keep your child at home until the assessment is all clear</li><li>▪ If all clear of COVID-19 infection but child is still unwell, follow # 5</li></ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ If the test is positive for COVID-19 infection, follow #1</li></ul>
3	Has been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Keep your child at home for 14 days from the date of exposure</li></ul>
4	Has been overseas in the last 14 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Keep your child at home for 14 days from the date of return to Australia</li></ul>
5	Has flu-like symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Keep your child at home until symptoms are all clear</li><li>▪ Follow your doctor's advice</li><li>▪ A doctor's certificate is not required</li></ul>
6	Has been in contact with someone with flu-like symptoms who is under medical assessment for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Keep your child at home until the person they were in contact has been cleared of COVID-19 infection</li></ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Follow #3</li></ul>



**Q2: Is the school planning to temporarily close?**

A2: The School will be guided by relevant authorities and will follow any direction to close. In addition, the School is evaluating the most responsible course of action on a daily basis. At present, the School has no plan to close.

**Q3: If the School does close temporarily, when and how will I be advised?**

A3: The School will provide as much notice as possible in the event of a closure. All communication channels will be used including email, SMS, Facebook and the School website.

**Q4: If there is a confirmed COVID-19 case within the School, how will the School find out about it and how will parents find out about it?**

A4: If there is a case, NSW Health will contact the Headmaster. Decisions will be made on the best actions to be taken. The Headmaster will be communicated to the School community.

**Q5: How will Students continue to learn if the School is temporarily closed?**

A5: If Students are unwell, there is no expectation that they should complete School work. Where Students are well but unable to attend School due to self-isolation, the School will provide learning materials and where possible:

- live interactive options for engagement in lessons;
- lessons and materials on portal;
- reply-all email conversations;
- materials via online platform (eg Google Classroom);
- other creative and subject/class-specific solutions.

**Q6: How will the School manage to scheduled School activities including co-curricular and excursions?**

A6: Government guidance is being followed. We will continue to assess the risks and the benefits of each activity and will make case by case decisions about which activities will continue and which will be postponed or cancelled.

**Q7: Should Parents and Carers cancel weekend and holiday travel plans?**

A7: We recommend Parents and Carers follow government advice. We encourage families to seriously consider not traveling overseas. In line with government requirements, Students who travel overseas will be required to self-isolate and not return to School for 14 days after their return.

Kind Regards

**Ian Maynard**  
Headmaster