



Calrossy Community COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update - Wednesday, March 25

Dear Calrossy Community

The situation with COVID-19 continues to develop and I want to explain what is continuing to take place at Calrossy.

Our School Remains Open

The health advice on schools is unchanged. The Prime Minister and Premier have deemed that it is safe for us to be open and continue to operate. There are no cases of COVID-19 impacting on any-one in our school community and the Chief Health Officer reports that to date, no detected case of infection has come through contact at any school.

However, following the Premier's advice on Monday 23 and today, we have seen attendance rates fall significantly with many parents choosing to keep students at home. I am in admiration of our staff who have continued to supervise those present at school whilst also seeking to support the learning of students remotely.

Calrossy will remain open for those parents who need to send their children, being employed in essential services or important roles. We also recognise that attending school is the best option for some children with high needs or those with no access to the internet. Depending on stage the learning at school will differ from traditional classroom experiences. Please know that with lower numbers increased social distancing measures are being implemented to protect students and staff.

HSC to Continue

With the decision by NESA to proceed with the 2020 HSC, we are committed to supporting our Senior students in Years 11 and 12. It is acknowledged that they may need to visit school, even if studying at home, to collect study materials, or undertake tasks related to major project completion. Parents of children in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 should be aware that NAPLAN for 2020 has been cancelled.

Supporting Learning for All Students

Calrossy teachers have been preparing for several weeks to provide students with learning experiences that can be undertaken at home. From Thursday 26, the students physically present at school will be learning in the same way as those offsite. They will be fully supervised but may not necessarily be in the same room with their regular teacher. Work will be placed online and contact made virtually. Teachers will monitor progress, attendance etc online. There will be bugs but our experience in the past two days and that in setting up eCalrossy has demonstrated that valuable learning can take place.

Further details for students and parents can be accessed via the COVID-19 tile on The HUB or on individual class pages through the relevant application.

Primary Students will access their learning through SeeSaw. Communication should be made with class teachers via email.

Secondary Students will use the The HUB and individual class pages to access lesson materials, re-sources and activities. A more structured day will follow the daily timetable, commencing at 8.40am. Students should be dressed and seated in a suitable place. Routine assessment tasks will be completed and submitted online. Activities may include participation in blogs, Zoom conferences or watching YouTube Chapel and assemblies available during each week. Students must use The HUB for communication rather than directly emailing teachers.



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Internet Services

Boarder and Day parents should note that telecommunication companies have opened up free access to greater bandwidth and improved services. Some details can be found on The HUB. If your child is having internet connection problems please talk to your provider or email our IT Department on itsupport@calrossy.nsw.edu.au.

Term 2

If the current advice from NSW Health continues, I am hopeful that Calrossy will reopen for Term 2 after the Easter break. This model of teaching delivery could continue into Term 2 depending on advice.

The past weeks have been a turbulent time. The changing nature of the severity of COVID-19 in Australia and the serious measures now undertaken by our National Leaders has been unsettling. How long the situation will last or the impact it will have on employment and our economy is unknown. If you have concerns regarding the wellbeing of your child, please let us know.

What I do know is that our teachers, other staff, students and families have been magnificent in the way they have responded to this crisis. It gives me great confidence in the strength of our community and our ability to negotiate hard times.

We are regularly updating the COVID-19 tile on The HUB and will continue to do so during each week.

The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. Psalm 18:2

Kind regards,

David Smith
Principal
Calrossy Anglican School

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