



Calrossy Community COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update - Monday, March 23

Dear Calrossy Community

The NSW Premier this morning announced a shutdown of non-essential services from midday today as the infection rate of Covid-19 increases. She made the following NSW Government directive regarding education in our state:

- Parents, where possible, are strongly advised to keep children at home for the remainder of Term 1, up until the Easter holidays.
- The School will remain open for students where it is not possible for them to remain at home.
- Those who remain at home will have alternative modes of learning provided by Calrossy.

The implications for Calrossy are as follows:

For students at home, provision will be made to maintain learning. We have plans for this to occur from P - 12, though our highest priority will be to preserve the learning for our Year 12 HSC students. The learning will be different, depending on the age and stage of students and will not involve full lesson streaming all day. Whilst we have the capacity to make video contact with students, we will be using the HUB, SeeSaw and other technology to provide activities for students. World-wide research indicates this is good practice in distance learning. Further detail will be provided to parents and students via the HUB in the next two days. We anticipate that data limits and broadband capacity may limit the option for some students to access online learning, though we will do our very best to work around these.

For students who must attend school, we will continue to practice high level hygiene, social distancing and every measure possible to protect health and safety. An unwell student must not attend school under any circumstance.

Boarding Houses will remain open only for Secondary students who need to be here. Separate information will be forwarded to parents from Courtney Coe.

Calrossy remains committed to the wellbeing of our community and resources will be provided to support our students during the next weeks via our electronic platforms.

Given the magnitude of the situation, moving Calrossy online using ICT will take several days to fully implement. Therefore, Calrossy staff will require till Thursday morning for this to become fully operational. Whilst planning has been undertaken for this provision, our staff have also been teaching uninterrupted during this crisis. Please do not email teachers for work but refer your child to the HUB, where details for learning will be available.

Our staff and students have been magnificent in responding to this current crisis and I am delighted in the way the community has worked together. The support of our parents has also been wonderful, and I am very grateful. The messages of encouragement have been greatly appreciated.

Even three weeks ago, no one could have anticipated the situation now. We don't know the long-term prognosis or even how this situation will play out over the next few weeks. Our plan is to get to the Easter holidays and then reassess the situation, once more is known about plans for education in Term 2 and beyond.

As per usual school requirements, if your child will not be present on campus, please email attendance@calrossy.nsw.edu.au or indicate the absence via the Calrossy app. In the content of your email or the comment part of the app, please indicate if your child is sick and not participating in school or if he/she will be availing themselves of online schooling. One email or



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One email or app entry may cover multiple days. Please indicate the dates to which you are referring.

Due to altered arrangements for teachers marking class rolls, the usual text messages for unaccounted-for students will be sent at approximately 10:30am (rather than 9:30am).

I remain committed to keeping our community informed during this situation as it unfolds. Foremost in our approach is the need to protect the best interests, health and wellbeing of our Calrossy students. This will continue to be the case.

Resilience is one of our School values and we are not without hope, despite our current situation.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4: 6-7

Kind regards,
David Smith