



From the Director

MEMO

13 March 2020

Re: **Coronavirus Update**

Dear Colleagues

I am writing in relation to recent communications from the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) in relation to Coronavirus (COVID-19); most particularly the special messages of 6 March and 11 March and relevant attachments.

I would firstly ask that you ensure you have read these messages and attachments, and use the template letters to communicate with the staff and families of your school. I believe you will also find the CECV document "Frequently asked questions for educational settings – novel coronavirus (COVID-19)" to be very useful in understanding the recommended reporting, isolation and communication protocols.

I also understand we are all very aware that this situation is evolving quickly, and recommendations and protocols may also change. We will keep you informed of any changes or revised advice as soon as it is provided by government agencies and the CECV.

I also wish to highlight that, at present, there is no advice that schools should be cancelling activities or events. Attention should be given to public hygiene, with staff and students encouraged to attend to washing, covering their mouth appropriately when sneezing or coughing, etc. However, schools need to continue to provide learning and support wellbeing in a stable safe environment, and should follow their normal routines and practices.

Should you have any questions or concerns, I would request that you contact Kevin Lawlor at this office. He will be able to assist in providing you with appropriate information and support.

Paul Desmond

Director of Catholic Education Sandhurst