



3 April 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Over the past few weeks I have written to you about the rapidly changing COVID-19 situation that has impacted on all of us. This period has been different from anything we have experienced before as families and as a school community.

In partnership with families, Blackfriars is committed to ensuring educational, spiritual and pastoral support for every child in our school.

I provide this latest update to you as we work through the significant implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and the changes that will be required to ensure we can continue to support the learning and wellbeing of your child.

Term 1

As you are aware, next week will be a pupil free week at Blackfriars. The pupil free days of Week 11, Monday 6 April to Thursday 9 April, will enable teachers and school staff to fine tune our remote delivery of e-learning to students.

Yesterday, the Federal Government announced the COVID-19 Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package with the main element of the package being that child care will be free for parents/caregivers from Monday, April 6 to 28 June 2020.

Our OSHC and ELC Services, subject to registered licensing requirements, will continue to operate on the pupil free days and holiday period with priority provided to children of essential workers, vulnerable and disadvantaged children and previously enrolled children.

Further details on the School's OSHC and ELC programs are available on the School's website: www.blackfriars.sa.edu.au or by contacting:

Rita Quaini - OSHC Director T: 8169 3956 E: rquaini@bps.sa.edu.au

Karen McEntee - ELC Director T: 8169 3961 E: kmcentee@bps.sa.edu.au

Term 2

From the commencement of Term 2, unless informed otherwise by the Government, Blackfriars will remain open to provide remote curriculum delivery and to support students whose particular circumstances require them to be at school.

We will work with families of students who will require attendance at school during this time. This will include children with parent(s)/caregiver(s) who are required to be at work.

Learning will be delivered simultaneously in school and at home. All students will access the same mode of e-learning; those at school will be supervised to access the same curriculum provided for those who will access it remotely.

This mode of e-learning will continue until we are advised differently by the government.

Financial Support

Blackfriars is providing support to families who have lost significant income due to COVID-19.

Any families who are experiencing financial difficulty are encouraged to contact the Finance Office and we will confidentially and sensitively work through this with you.

Supporting your child's learning from home

We continue to ensure that the welfare and learning of our students remains the priority focus of our School. We are committed to ensuring this work is undertaken with care and expertise.

Please use the Blackfriars Remote Learning Guidelines to support students living and learning in an online learning environment. Over time we will provide additional resources and practical information about how you can support your child at home.

Communications

Blackfriars will continue to provide updated information on our website and social media channels.

To assist the School in planning for students who will be attending school on-campus in Term 2, I ask you to please complete the very brief survey to be distributed via SEQTA later this afternoon. Remember, the on-line learning provided by the school will be the same for both students who attend school in person and students who remain home.

Please continue to use SEQTA direct message in communication with staff.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop has moved to On-line ordering. Orders may be placed by clicking the following link:

<https://bpspay.blackfriars.sa.edu.au/>

You will then be required to:

1. Login using your SEQTA credentials
2. Select Canteen and Uniform Ordering *(at the top of the page)*
3. Select Blackfriars Uniform

School Opening Hours Week 11 and School Holidays

The staff and I, will be available in Term 1 until 9 April.

School Closure

For Easter and the School Holidays there will be a total closure of Blackfriars from **Friday, 10 April to Tuesday 14 April** (inclusive).

The School is **open only** for students and families attending Vacation Care during the holidays.

Term 2

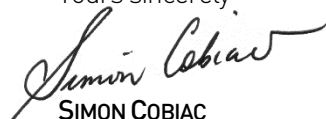
The School Site will re-open for students on **Monday, 27 April**.

As of Wednesday, 15 April parents are welcome to contact the Front Office, Finance Office and Administration for the days prior to Term 2. Please phone the School on **8169 3900** or use the appropriate email addresses published in the Blackfriars Remote Learning Guide.

In conclusion, the development of your child – educationally, spiritually and pastorally – is our highest priority, and we know that this is heavily dependent upon the strong, trusting partnership we have built with each family. We are stronger through our work together.

I pray that you, your family and friends remain safe and well.

Yours sincerely



SIMON COBIAC
PRINCIPAL