



# John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School

A school of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc

ABN 56 676 652 018

16 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians of Year 10 students

In preparation for the possibility of school closures in Western Australia due to Coronavirus, John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School (JSRACS) will be undertaking a trial of its remote teaching and learning capabilities this week. The results and information gleaned from this trial will be communicated to the Anglican Schools Commission (ASC) and referred to by all ASC School Principals. This information will be subsequently used as a basis for the ASC's response to any decision to close schools for an extended period of time due to Coronavirus.

While it is acknowledged that the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Scott Morrison; while outlining the Social Distancing Protocols to be implemented in Australia to combat the Coronavirus, informed the Australian public that school closures "could actually make the situation worse, not better"; Mr Morrison also acknowledged that any decision made "could be changed". It is with this ever-changing landscape in mind that the ASC and JSRACS have decided to continue with this trial.

The School's trial will be held on Thursday, 19 March 2020. On this day, the Year 10 learning program will be delivered by remote technology. Year 10 students will be encouraged to stay at home and engage with their teachers in an online teaching and learning program trial. The Year 10 learning program will be delivered through the Teams and One Note platforms, of which staff are familiar. Students have engaged in Teams and OneNote as part of their learning program at School; however further experience and basic training will be implemented this week for all staff and students. Easy-to-read guides for both platforms have already been developed and will also be available for staff and students to refer to.

Members of the Executive Team have already trialled this technology remotely with great success, and are satisfied that the platforms will provide a teaching and learning alternative that will allow the remote continuity of the School's teaching and learning program for its students.

A link will be emailed to all parents of Year 10 students on Tuesday, 17 March, where parents/guardians are requested to indicate if they give permission for their child to work remotely from home, or if instead they will be attending school. It is expected that all parents respond to this request for approval, via the link, by 4:00pm on 18 March. Students whose parents do not approve of their children staying at home for the day will still access the teaching and learning program remotely, albeit from School. A classroom will be set up for this purpose, with students being taught their individual lessons through their devices. While the School understands that a small number of students may require to be at School for this trial, it is the School's preference that all Year 10 students are able to stay at home for this trial.

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16 March 2020  
Parents and Guardians of Year 10 students  
Page 2 of 2

While this letter serves only as a notification of the trial, further details regarding its specifics have been communicated to all Year 10 students today; Monday, 16 March. These details will also be communicated to parents.

I trust that the Year 10 students and parents support this important trial, as the information collected and the experience of staff and students will be an important step in ensuring the continuity of the teaching and learning program at John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School, as well as at all ASC Schools in these uncertain times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JB', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jason Bartell  
**PRINCIPAL**