



# 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

Further to the Social Distancing Protocols announced by the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Scott Morrison, and in response to these announcements, the Executive Team at John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School (JSRACS) met on Sunday, 15 March 2020 and agreed to implement a range of Social Distancing Protocols at JSRACS. Subsequent to this meeting, the Director General of the Western Australian Department of Education announced the following which is to apply to WA Government Schools:

*All camps cancelled, all assemblies, sports carnivals and events, major performances etc cancelled, recess/lunch breaks are staggered for schools 500+.*

John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School will fall into line with the above directive until 31 July 2020; however, noting that this date may change in time:

The following will take effect immediately:

**1] Community Hygiene Principles**

To maintain the clear and consistent messaging of community hygiene principles to all students, with two new additions as highlighted in red below.

- Wash hands thorough and frequently in hot soapy water.
- Cough and sneeze into a flexed elbow or tissue.
- Don't get too close - Avoid contact with others.
- **No sharing of food.**
- **No sharing of drink bottles. Students to bring their own drink bottle to school, effective from Tuesday, 17 March 2020.**

**2] Mass Gathering**

The immediate cancellation of all Assemblies, Chapel Services and all other gatherings of more than 200 students.

**3] Co-Curricular Program**

The immediate cancellation/postponement of the following events until 31 July 2020 or until further notice:

- Excursions (deemed not essential)
- Camps
- Co-curricular activities
- Music Ensembles
- Theatre Productions
- ACC Sports/Lighting Carnivals/NIPSSA Carnivals and
- Other events as decided.

For a list of School events cancelled, please refer to the following link.

<https://www.jsracs.wa.edu.au/cancelled-events/>

**4] Administrative and Staff Room Social Distancing Protocols**

- All Staff are to maintain a distance of 1 metre in staffrooms and lunchrooms. Students will be encouraged to maintain distance between them at all times.
- There is to be no handshaking/physical contact between staff. Students will be encouraged to minimise their contact.
- All non-essential meetings will occur through email correspondence rather than face-to-face meetings (where possible).

cont'd 2/-

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Telephone: (08) 9247 2242

*Beechboro Campus:* Blackboy Way, Beechboro  
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**5] Classroom Practices/Set Up**

- All classroom setups to ensure 1 metre distance between students (as can be managed).
- Ventilation of all classrooms – Open windows (where possible)
- Teaching staff should implement learning opportunities that include outdoor activities, where appropriate and possible.

**6] Cash Handling Protocols**

- All Staff/Trainees handling cash should wear gloves (effective immediately).
- Students are encouraged to use 'Tap and Pay' facilities for payment.
- Parents are encouraged to use the online flexischool pay facilities (Primary) and online uniform shop services.
- School banking is cancelled immediately.

Further to the above protocols and 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 programme will be delivered by remote technology, with a subsequent review of the School's capabilities to deliver online, remote teaching and learning opportunities.

While I understand that some of the decisions as outlined in this letter will impact many staff, students and parents, the community's health and safety will always remain our first and foremost priority. It should also be noted that these protocols are, for now, implemented for the next four weeks only.

I thank our school community for your support. Let me assure you that despite the uncertainty surrounding the global outbreak, all our efforts are going into providing a safe and happy school environment for our students.

Yours sincerely



Jason Bartell  
**PRINCIPAL**