



12 March 2020

**RE: COVID 19 UPDATE 1**

Dear Parents and Caregivers

As per my March newsletter article, I am updating you on the current state of play regarding the College's response to the COVID 19 situation. We are receiving regular updates from Queensland Health, the Anglican Schools Commission (ASC) and Independent Schools of Queensland (ISQ). As of March 10, there are only 18 cases of COVID 19 in Queensland and schools are operating normally.

There are some requirements that you need to be aware of:

- If your child is unwell and/or exhibiting any cold or flu symptoms, they need to stay home from school until they are well and not exhibiting any symptoms. This is standard practice as we do not want to spread *any* illnesses.
- If your child is exhibiting symptoms of cold or flu while at school, you will be called to come and collect them to take them home. We want to keep our students and staff healthy and your child will recover more quickly if resting at home.
- If you are travelling overseas, please be aware of the risks. Visit the [Smart Traveller](#) website or the [QLD Health](#) website. We are not taking any International Study Tours this semester and Semester Two Study Tours will be reviewed based on the state of play later in Term Two.
- **We are asking all families travelling overseas to inform the College prior to leaving of their departure, return dates and any countries visited or transited through.** Depending on where you are travelling to, your children may not be able to attend school for 14 days from your return date. Countries such as China, Iran, Italy and South Korea have mandatory self-isolation periods for those who have returned from these countries but students who are returning from Japan and other countries may also be required to stay away from school for two weeks, depending on the most recent advice. Be aware, that while you may be visiting a country that does not require self-isolation on return, the situation may change while you are overseas.
- You may have heard on the news about some school closures in NSW due to COVID 19. If there is a confirmed case of COVID 19 at a QLD school, it is likely that the school will need to close for a period of time to allow Queensland Health to assess the situation and identify which staff and students may have come into contact with a COVID 19 case. Parents are being urged to consider their own family and care arrangements in the event of a temporary school closure. To date, this has not been necessary in Queensland but we are preparing contingencies for curriculum delivery should this scenario occur.
- We are taking extra precautions at school including increasing the frequency of cleaning of contact surfaces, such as desks; stocking up on hand sanitiser for classrooms; and encouraging



regular hand washing amongst our staff and student body. Hand washing is a very effective method of preventing corona viruses. I have included some fact sheets for your information.

- At FCAC we have the added advantage of having a Registered Nurse on site. Nurse Kay is well-placed to provide informed advice and support in the event of a health incident.
- The College will comply with all advice from Queensland Health and other relevant bodies. Due to the low incidence of COVID 19 in Queensland and the lack of any cases in our area we are planning for all College events for Term 1 to continue as scheduled. Should the situation change, we will provide updates.
- If there are any sudden developments regarding COVID 19 that impacts the FCAC community, I will be communicating them first as a push notification through the College app ('Notices' section). The message will be broadcast via other means (such as email) but the College app will be the first communication source. If you have not downloaded this app yet, I encourage you to do so ([App Store](#) and [Google Play](#)).

It is really important that we all project a calm and measured response to any health situation. Children's anxiety can be heightened when the adults around them become anxious. There is a great deal of misinformation about COVID 19 circulating that is causing some unnecessary concern and panic in sections of the community. It is really important that you get your information from government sources (eg. [QLD Health](#)).

Please be assured that the health and well-being of our community and the continuity of service are our focus. Any response from FCAC will be measured and based on informed, reliable advice from experts. If you have any specific questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

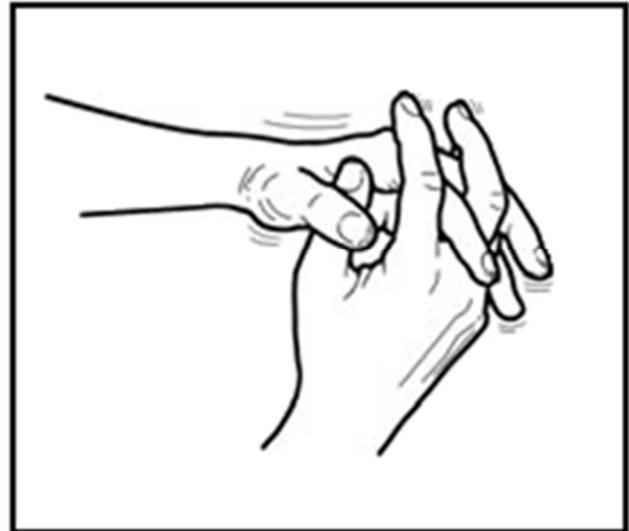
Joe Wright  
Principal

# Hand Washing Technique

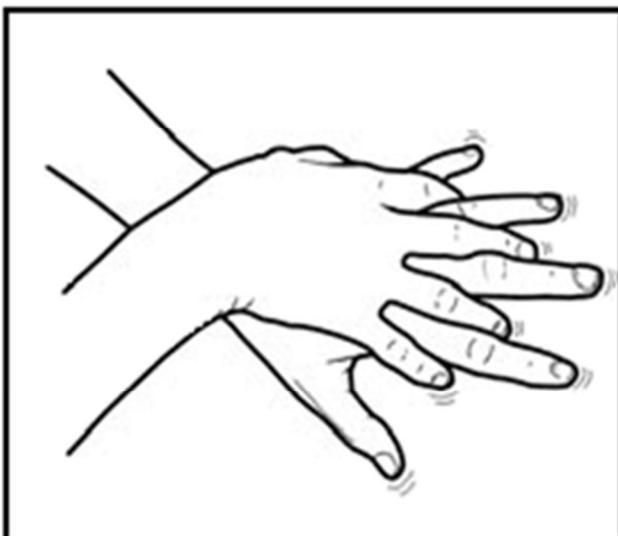
1. Use soap and water
2. Vigorously wash hand for 20 to 30 seconds - see pictures below
3. Rinse hands with running water
4. Dry hands thoroughly



1. Wash palms



2. Wash between fingers



3. Wash back of hands



4. Wash wrists