

West End State School

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Dear WESS Community

I hope that you are all staying well.

I want to take this opportunity clarify the school's processes with regard to self-quarantining. I have used the QLD Health website as a resource to ensure that my communication is informed and consistent in its message.

We have had some inquiries about who should self-quarantine and when. The advice from https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/take-action/self-quarantine, in addition to self-quarantine due to travel or if you have any of the virus symptoms, is:

You must also self-quarantine if you have been in <u>close contact</u> with someone who already has novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

While you're self-quarantining, if you start to feel unwell and develop any symptoms at all, but especially a fever or shortness of breath, a cough or a respiratory illness, you should seek immediate medical attention. Call ahead to your GP and tell them your travel history so they can prepare for your visit.

In all cases and if you are unsure, or if you or your family members become unwell, we ask that you seek advice from your doctor or <u>13HEALTH</u> (<u>13 43 25 84</u>). As educators, our staff are not equipped to answer questions, give advice or make decisions for your families about the virus.

Some WESS families have made the decision to voluntarily quarantine. This is a family decision and we understand this decision is made with your own context in mind.

If you choose to quarantine your family, our teachers will endeavour to supply some schoolwork for your child/ren. Please remember that they are doing this in their own time. They still have a fulltime teaching load, as many students remain at school. We all need to be mindful of teacher workload and your patience in this area is appreciated. Please note that any work supplied is to be monitored by parents and carers. There is no requirement for the work to be sent back to teachers, unless this is indicated.

I hope that you have all taken the time to read my article in last week's newsletter. It outlines very clearly, the procedure for <u>notifying the community if</u> <u>we have a confirmed case at WESS</u>. It also outlines what school work you can expect in the case of school closure, should that arise.

We at WESS continue to follow directives from our Department, which are based on advice from QLD Health. As outlined in previous communications, we have taken many proactive steps to ensure the wellbeing of our students and staff.

Take care

Kim McNamara *Principal*

PROTECT YOURSELF & THOSE AROUND YOU



