

26 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

SCHOOL CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT

As many of you would now be aware, the Queensland Government this morning announced schools will be **student free** all of next week, starting next Monday 30 March. This means that school holidays now start tomorrow afternoon.

Next week, all Queensland teachers, including Genesis staff, will use the student-free time to continue preparing and planning for online learning. Below, I have outlined what this means for your family.

What will happen next week?

There will be **no classes next week**. I would ask that as many students stay home next week as possible. However, if you are an essential worker or you have a child who is vulnerable, we will offer supervision from 8:30am to 3:00pm Monday to Thursday. Friday 3 April, is the scheduled student free day and no supervision will be provided on that day. Please note, **Eden Eats will not be open, so all students will need to bring their own food. Genesis Sports uniform is acceptable on these days.**

Primary students

Prep-Year 3 students are to meet in the Lower Primary Undercover area and Years 4-6 in the Upper Primary Undercover area.

If you are intending on sending your Primary child/children next week, can you please complete this survey at your earliest convenience so we can adequately plan staffing for student supervision.

[Student Attendance Survey](#)

Secondary students

Please meet in the Middle School Undercover area. If your Secondary child/children will be attending, please complete this survey.

[Student Attendance Survey](#)

Outside School Hours Care

Before and after-school care will remain open next week.

Vacation Care

At this time, we will still offer Vacation Care during the school holidays. I will email you if these plans change.

My Secondary school student has assessment due next week. What should they do?

Some Secondary students may still have assessments scheduled for the remainder of the term. All assessments can be submitted through Turnitin, following normal College protocol, and are still due on the date provided.

How will my child learn if schools are asked to close next term?

Every teacher at Genesis is ready to teach your children at home from the first day of Term two. Tomorrow morning, I will be emailing each of you the details of **Genesis@Home**, our online teaching and learning platform. This will tell you everything you need to get ready.

As always, I am guided by our governments in this rapidly changing environment. If we are asked to move to online learning, I am confident that **Genesis@Home** will provide the quality teaching and learning environment you expect from us.

My family is struggling. How can you help?

Many of our community are reeling from the changes caused by this pandemic - job changes and losses, illness and anxiety.

We have created a Pastoral Care Hub to care for our community. Students, parents, carers and staff are all welcome to email pastoral@genesis.qld.edu.au to share prayer points, practical requests and their need for emotional support. We will treat every email with great sensitivity and confidentiality as we seek to support each other.

Everything is changing so fast. How do I keep up with what's happening at Genesis?

We are posting all of our updates here: <https://www.genesis.qld.edu.au/covid19-updates/>
Office staff will continue to work next week and Main Reception will be open through the Easter holidays.

We are in this together

In the midst of ever-changing circumstances, I am so thankful for the messages of support and understanding I've received throughout our Genesis community. We are in uncharted waters—but we are never alone. Our loving Father knows everything that lies ahead and HE is still in control.

My prayer for each one of us is from Psalm 121:1–2: *I lift my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.*

May we each know His love, peace and protection.

Blessings



Paul Sterling
Principal