



27 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to start by acknowledging both our teaching, support and administration staff for their compassion and dedication as we work together through these unprecedented times. I am very grateful for the support and positive approach being shown across the school to make the best of what is a difficult time.

I would also like to thank students and families for your understanding and co-operation as we journey through these changing times. It is essential for parents and carers to have ongoing conversations with their students as this situation continues to unfold. As well as supporting their needs, it is important for students to understand the behaviours within our community at this time.

There are increasing levels of anxiety becoming evident among our students and staff. I must take this in to account. It is imperative that as we attempt to work our way through this unprecedented phase of history which is having an increasingly pervasive effect on all we do in our community, our Nation and the entire world, that we do not lose sight of the wellbeing of our students and staff.

Student Free Days - Students of Essential Workers

The Queensland Government announced yesterday that an additional five (5) Student Free Days will be in place next week, from Monday 30 March to Friday 3 April inclusive. This means that the Term 1 break will start early for students and your child will not attend school next week, unless they are children of essential workers or vulnerable children. Essential workers are those that must currently continue to attend their workplace during this difficult time and supervision will be provided at our school for these children.

Please notify the school today if you are an essential worker and your child will be attending school during the Student Free Days next week. Please take note that during the Student Free Days, the school will have the following processes in place:

- all students attending will be required to wear their school uniform;
- all school expectations and processes will apply;
- there will be no timetabled classes conducted;
- the tuckshop will not be open;
- students need to bring alternative activities to engage in.

The Student Free Days next week will allow school staff to be engaged in planning and preparing curriculum and resources to support the continuity of learning for our students in the event that the school is directed to move to remote learning at the commencement of Term 2.

Term 2 2020 Remote Learning at Bowen State High School

The school has developed a **Whole School Continuity of Learning Plan for Students and Continuity of Learning Protocols** to ensure that our students are supported with continuing their learning

throughout Term 2 if we are required to provide remote learning. The school will release school protocols and all curriculum materials and resources for all students in years 7-12 at the commencement of Term 2 to ensure that home learning schedules can be developed. Parents can support their child by taking an active role in helping students process their learning.

All students will be supported during the remote learning period including our students with disability and/or students working on individual curriculum plans. Students working on modified curriculum materials will continue to be provided with learning materials and resources aligned to their identified curriculum level/s. To assist the school with supporting our students, please contact the school if your student/s requires access to a computer or hard copies (paper format) of curriculum materials and resources for remote learning in Term 2. The school needs the name of your student, year level and your current address so the necessary materials can be prepared for the commencement of Term 2.

School Contact Details

Phone: (07) 47869888

School Principal Email: The.principal@bowenshs.eq.edu.au

Deputy Principal (Junior Secondary) Email: sbutw2@eq.edu.au

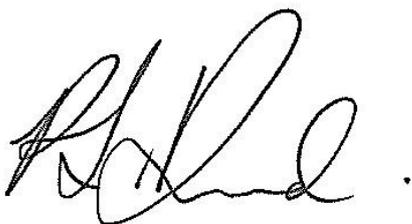
Deputy Principal (Senior Secondary) Email: rharr111@eq.edu.au

Primary communication will be via email, the Learning Place and One Drive (Year 11 and 12 students ONLY). Students will communicate with teachers by departmental email and/or via online platforms. Students will need to be able to access their school emails. Please do not contact a teacher on a teacher's private phone number, Facebook or other social media sites. All students must continue to comply with the school's Information and Technology Acceptable User Agreement. All communications are to be respectful and appropriate.

State schools will be formally closed for Term 1 break from the end of today, Friday, 3 April. Staff will return to work on Monday 20 April unless health advice determines otherwise. I will continue to update our school community as the COVID-19 situation evolves and I thank you for your patience, understanding and continued support during these unprecedented and challenging times.

Enjoy your Easter break and please stay safe. Spend this valuable time with family and loved ones. The health and safety of our students, staff and school families are paramount during this time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pam Prichard', followed by a period.

Pam Prichard
Principal