



Good morning everyone,

Here I am from the principal's lounge yet again, gee, what a difference 24 hours makes at the moment! I hope you're all keeping well and thank you for the lovely messages and support for our staff. They've been well received and greatly appreciated.

Well, who would want to be a Prime Minister or Premier at the moment, when I think about the planning and forward thinking and risk management we have had to employ on site with approximately 1500 people, I cannot imagine having to have done this on a much larger scale for a state and a country. Our leaders and their teams must be thoroughly exhausted. I know we are. John F. Kennedy once said, "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," and at this time of great challenge to our nation. I think what we must do for our country is to stay home if we can and continue working if we can, and we're still lucky to be able to do both, if we're in that position.

With this in mind, I want to acknowledge our working parents, including our staff, and say we will continue to support you for as long as we can. We understand that by working you are keeping our country afloat, and we truly appreciate it. I also want to acknowledge those that have kept their children at home because they are able to, and again, we want to acknowledge your commitment to the health of our country.

So today, I want to talk to you about stage two of our COVID-19 contingency plan. Starting from next Monday, we will begin what we refer to as the HIHO plan. Now you've all heard of FIFO, flying in fly out, well the HIHO plan is Harrisdale in, Harrisdale out. This plan aims to cater for the students at home, the students that must be at school and also cater for our staff and families with health conditions and families of their own. So, starting from Monday, working parents can only drop their children at one point and that point is the Kiss n' Drive on Fairhaven Avenue. No other gates will be open, you must drop between 8:10am and 8:30am only, and you must pick up between 2:40pm and 3:00pm only. Students will be met at the Kiss n' drive and escorted to a collection point where social distancing will apply of course, and they will be allocated to a room and a teacher for the day. They will be grouped according to the year level. They will not necessarily have their own teacher, as teachers and all staff will be rostered to be on at school or to work from home. The office will be closed but you can phone or email office staff who will be rostered on and off also.

The home learning program will commence on Monday, the 30th of March and will continue until the term break on April 9th. Hopefully you have actioned your Seesaw home learning code by now. If not, please contact your child's teacher. So, what might learning look like? We acknowledge that this will look different for each and every family. We understand that not all families will have access to technology. So, the home learning plan is a combination of online learning and offline learning. We acknowledge that parents working from home will have priority over any technology in their household for work purposes. We also acknowledge that parents working from home have to prioritise their work, as it is their work that pays the bills. We acknowledge that some parents will want to maintain a routine, and others won't. We will not dictate to you what home learning looks like in your household. With this in mind, our teachers have designed learning programs on a grid format. You and your child or children choose the learning activity that best suits your household. You can

do all or you can do nothing. However, I do believe teachers have over planned so it should last for more than two weeks. And I know some of you are thinking what's going on in terms of term two, this is unknown. But, be assured that if the school closure continues into term two, we will have the planning and the work ready for the students. The work that teachers have planned for these last two weeks really is probably way more than you could get through in two weeks anyway, so it's certainly will go them well over the start of next term.

I want to remind you that Seesaw will be the main communication method between teachers and students. So again, if you haven't activated that home learning code you need to do so now. So, with our HIHO arrangement in mind, please understand that staff will be rostered in school or out of school, and when they're out of school, they will be working from home as best they can. Teachers working from home will endeavour to be available from 8am to 3pm. However, please understand that they may be juggling work commitments and their family at the same time, so you may need to be understanding and flexible when it comes to their availability. Please also understand that any schoolwork that students do will be acknowledged by the teacher and commented on, but it will not be assessed for any reporting purposes. Why? Because these assessments would not be valid, nor would they be fair, so they cannot be used in reporting.

Currently, our Impact Coaches are working on a very basic essential learnings document and this was actually suggested by one of our parents that I had a conversation with the other day. This may guide you as to what students should be able to do by the end of the year at school. For example, if you're in Pre - Primary, a student by the end of the year should be able to count and write numerals 2 and from 20. It will be quite a basic and abridged version of the WA curriculum, but what we're trying to do is make it very parent friendly but succinct. You choose to be guided by this or not, the choice is yours.

If you need any clarification on any of the points I've mentioned today, please access our website. There's a contact us email that you can access. Please understand, however, that we are extremely busy at the moment, so try not to bombard us. This is all new for us as well and we are working through it as best we can.

In finishing off, I like to acknowledge the work of our Executive Team and troubleshooting all of these challenges and to our amazing staff for rising to every challenge that has been thrown at them recently. I'd also like to acknowledge our amazing students and their families and say thank you for your support and positivity. We are so grateful for the amazing community that we have at Harrisdale. Students, we all care for you, we miss you, goodbye for now.

So, on Monday and until further notice, obviously for the next two weeks, the arrangements are that Pre - Primary students must be dropped off between 8:00am and 8:15am and remembering that these are only children of working parents. Kindy students are to be dropped off between 8:15am and 8:30am. At the gates you will be met by Mrs. Forzatti and one of our School Officers, and they will take your child to a meeting point, and at the meeting point they will be allocated out to a class. If they are Kindy, allocated out to a Kindy class, Pre – Primary, allocated to a Pre - Primary class. At the end of the day, please arrive promptly at 2:40pm, Pre – Primary parents and promptly at 3:00pm for Kindy parents,



the reason being, they will need to be collected from that meeting point and handed back to you to take home safely. So, please be on time and remember those times, again, 8:00am to 8:15am for Pre - Primary and collection at 2:40pm. And for Kindergarten, 8:15am to 8:30am and for collection promptly at 3pm. Thanks everyone.

Please note, this is a transcript taken from a video message with Principal, Karen Duncan.

Karen Duncan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Duncan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a white rectangular background.