17th April 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

I trust you enjoyed Easter with family and that you were able to relax and refresh for Term 2. I took the opportunity to re-establish a good routine with sleep, enjoy cooking and connecting with my family and friends from across Australia, to celebrate Easter through social media. I certainly had my fair share of chocolate!!!!!!!!!

On Monday we commence Term 2, and for most students and staff this means returning to 'face to face' teaching and learning. We do understand that for a number of reasons some of you will decide to keep your child/ren at home and they will not physically attend school. If so, we ask that you contact the relevant Senior Teacher via email to confirm that this is the case. This will help us coordinate our resources and teachers who will contact you and offer support for your child at home. Contact with students will be made via their ntschools email, Microsoft Teams and other online platforms as directed by individual teachers.

- Years 10, 11 and 12, Andrew Murton <u>andrew.murton@ntschools.net</u>
- Years 7, 8 and 9, Michael Stimpson michael.stimpson@ntschools.net
- Liya Djambatj and Aboriginal Education, Lee Gordon <u>lee.gordon@ntschools.net</u>

For those students in the middle years (7-9) who need to continue their learning from home the Department of Education has produced a ten (10) week program. These packs are available for collection from the front office. The following link also provides additional learning materials: https://nt.gov/learning/learning-together.

For students in the senior years, processes that are already in place will continue.

With reduced student numbers, and to prepare for more flexible delivery of programs, we have consolidated our Year 7 cohort from three classes to two. This has also allowed us to provide opportunities for a small number of teachers to connect with those students working from home.

Families of those students directly affected by this change have been contacted and we will hold a brief Year 7 assembly on Monday morning to allow students time to review their new timetables and meet new classmates.

At school we will continue to implement measures to maximise good hygiene and cleanliness to ensure our school remains a safe place for students and staff to be and to learn. This includes additional professional cleaning across the school, throughout the day, and access to sanitiser in classrooms and work areas.

During recess and lunch, students will be supervised and reminded as necessary about maintaining social distance. We will also continue with modified smaller group meetings and rosters, in lieu of who school assemblies for the time being.

We are still required to restrict school excursions and during practical subjects, teachers will adapt programs and learning activities to limit close contact, and minimise equipment handling whilst continuing to encourage safe hygiene practices.

Further information for parents is being developed by the Department of Education and will be forthcoming, but in the meantime, I also encourage you to have a look at information and excellent resources that are available through Beyond Blue and ESafety.gov.au

At the end of last term I communicated some basic information to you regarding Dawurr Boarding School being used as the Nhulunbuy Quarantine Facility, to help manage the risk of COVID-19 in our community. As stated, the students and staff of our school remain our top priority, and to that end, staff are well-connected to boarding students who have returned to their home community and their families. We look forward to their return, trusting this will be as soon as possible. I encourage any parent who wishes to discuss this further to contact me at the school on 8987 0844.

We look forward to seeing our students returning on Monday 20th April!

Yours sincerely

Sabina Smith Principal

Nhulunbuy High School