



**ST HILDA'S SCHOOL
GOLD COAST**

18 February 2020

RETURN-TO-SCHOOL STUDENT HEALTH UPDATE #5

Dear Parents/Carers

On Thursday 13 February, the Australian Government announced that existing travel restrictions for people travelling to Australia from mainland China will be extended based on the advice of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC).

The Department of Education, Skills and Employment has updated its [fact sheets](#) to reflect this information.

For information on travel restrictions please visit the Department of Home Affairs [website](#).

The main change to this advice for schools is in relation to the following:

- The removal of specific advice for Childcare, school and TAFE students, teachers, and workers, to not attend school, childcare or TAFE for 14 days after leaving Hong Kong. Queensland Health has advised that Hong Kong is no longer a concern as Hong Kong has strengthened their border controls with Mainland China and has not seen the large numbers of cases now being seen in many provinces in Mainland China.

For clarity and ease of interpretation, the updated **Self-quarantine advice (from 15 February 2020) is as follows:**

If you have been to or transited through Mainland China in the last 14 days and are feeling unwell, see a doctor immediately.

The advice below is for anyone who has travelled to or transited through Mainland China in the past 14 days, or for anyone who has been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus and is feeling well.

If you have been in, or transited through, mainland China

- You need to self-quarantine for 14 days from the date you departed mainland China.
- If you begin to feel unwell and develop a fever or shortness of breath, a cough or a respiratory illness during your period of self-quarantine you should seek immediate medical attention. Call ahead to your GP or emergency department and mention your travel history before you arrive.
- If you experience any other symptom during your period of self-quarantine you should also seek immediate medical attention and mention your travel history before you arrive.

If you have been in close contact with someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19

- You need to self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of contact with the confirmed case.
- If you begin to feel unwell and develop a fever or shortness of breath, a cough or a respiratory illness during your period of self-quarantine you should seek immediate medical attention. Call ahead to your GP or emergency department and mention you've been in contact with someone with novel coronavirus before you arrive.
- If you experience any other symptom during your period of self-quarantine you should also seek immediate medical attention and mention you have been in contact with a confirmed case before you arrive.

More information about self-quarantine and what happens at the end of quarantine is available [here](#).

For further health advice, please visit the Department of Health [website](#).

Yours sincerely

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