

**MAZENOD COLLEGE**

Conducted by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

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Dear Boarding Parents

I write to inform you that Mazenod Boarding will be temporarily closing as of this Thursday, 26 March. The Boarding Team, parents and the boarders have been wonderful in continuing to operate during recent weeks, providing great care and maintaining the Cebula spirit. It is in everyone's best interest that we begin to close down Boarding over the next few days. You may be aware that State Boarding schools are closing as well, and we have made this decision in consultation with Catholic Education Western Australia. I am sure you will look forward to your sons being back in your care.

We understand this closure is challenging for parents so we will assist as best we can. Boarders can be collected any time in the next few days. Ideally, we would like to have all boarders residing with a city guardian or on their way home by 5.00pm on Thursday, but we will accommodate any families that are not able meet this timeline.

As mentioned, the boys have been outstanding in their response to the necessary restrictions we have had to put in place over the past few weeks. They have supported one another and been proactive in helping manage residential life. We are very proud of them and I know you would be of the same opinion. I also want to acknowledge the dedication and leadership shown by our Boarding Leadership Team; Mr Tom Floyd, Ms Candice Betts and Mr Brad Gardner. Their leadership has assisted boarders, parents and staff to feel confident in the approach we have been taking during these uncertain times. Along with each of the House Mothers and supervisors, this team has provided excellent care for the students.

As you would be aware from my recent update to parents regarding learning, students will be able to engage in their studies by accessing the OneNote resources and following the directions of their teachers. Before leaving, the boys should ensure their laptops are up to date and OneNote classes current. We have an accurate list of Boarding families' internet capacity which Mr Jeff Ronan sourced through a survey with them and we will be mindful in our planning to provide learning activities; however, if you are experiencing difficulties, please inform us. Text books and items related to ongoing assessment should be taken home, where practical. Over the next few days, I suggest Boarders should take time to adjust at home, set up a study space and move quickly into their school work.

The Boarding Leadership Team and I have been in discussion regarding the ways in which we will continue to maintain the Cebula community and spirit in the interim, and we will engage both the student leaders, parents and boys in this plan.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to welcoming you and your son back to Cebula Boarding at a date to be advised.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Watson
Principal

24 March 2020