



# MINARET COLLEGE

*Islamic College of Melbourne South and East*

29 January 2020

Dear Minaret Family

Assalam Alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu,

InshaAllah this letter finds you in the best state of health and iman.

Alhamdulillah it's been a positive start to 2020 at both campuses. The College is now buzzing with the energy of our students and teachers; learning has begun! Sadly, the start of the year has been slightly tainted by public concern regarding the coronavirus. This letter is to update our parents and carers regarding the approach we are taking at the College.

Minaret College is adhering to the advice from the Department of Education and Training. An overview of their advice is included with this letter. In summary:

- The risk to Australian public remains relatively low
- No staff or student is required to be excluded from the College unless they have travelled to Wuhan, China and has been confirmed to have the coronavirus or has been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus

As a precautionary measure, if a student has travelled to Wuhan or has been in contact with an individual who has, we ask that parents advise the College. Sharing this information will allow the College to monitor the student and act appropriately if they develop any symptoms. Advice should be provided by calling our Administration team at each campus.

As is our standard practice, we ask that if any student is unwell for any reason, they should not come to school until they are well. If a student becomes unwell during the day, the College will follow our standard process to contact parents or emergency contacts to ask for the student to be taken home.

The College will continue to implement Department advice and parents can access this information at <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>. If there is a significant change to our approach, we will again write to our families to inform you. If you have specific concerns or questions regarding your child, please contact our Administration team.

Finally, as a reminder to myself and all of us, our ultimate trust is with Allah (swt). While we will take all the necessary safety measures, our health is always by His decree. We ask Allah (swt) to protect our community and keep us all in good health.

Kind regards,

**Mohammed Taksim**  
Executive Principal

# CORONAVIRUS ADVICE FOR PARENTS, FAMILIES AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

You may be aware of the outbreak of a novel coronavirus in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China.

The Australian Government has advised that there is no cause for alarm with respect to the coronavirus and that the risk to the Australian public remains relatively low.

The Department of Education and Training has consulted with Victoria's Chief Health Officer and Department of Health and Human Services to provide the following advice to parents, families and school communities.

## EXCLUSION OF WELL CHILDREN OR STAFF WHO HAVE TRAVELLED TO AFFECTED AREAS

In accordance with national public health guidelines and current information about the coronavirus from the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer, it is not a requirement to exclude well children or staff from school if they have travelled to Wuhan, China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases, unless the following applies:

- the person is a confirmed case of novel coronavirus; or
- the person is a close contact with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus in the past 14 days.

If you think your child or a family member may meet one of the above criteria, please contact the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398. Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only.

## SEEKING MEDICAL ADVICE FOR YOUR CHILD

Please seek medical advice for any child who is:

- experiencing fever and respiratory symptoms (including but not limited to cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, body aches or fatigue); AND
- has recently travelled to Wuhan, China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases in the 14 days before of the onset of illness.

As with the above advice, please call the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398 to discuss further actions.

## MORE INFORMATION

For up-to-date information, please see the Department of Health and Human Services website: [Information for the public - novel coronavirus](#)