



## Frequently Asked Questions and COVID-19 Guidelines

### If a student chooses to visit or transit\* through China, Hong Kong, Iran, Italy, South Korea, Japan, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, Mongolia or Singapore\*\* and returns without cold or flu symptoms, can she return immediately to school?

No. It is compulsory for any student who went to or transited through the countries listed above, and returned to Australia on or after 1 February, to self-quarantine by staying at home for 14 days after landing in Australia. This also applies to family members and friends, who must not visit the school before the 14-day self-quarantine period has passed.

\*Transit means your flight landed in any of the countries listed above.

\*\*Please note this list of countries is current as at 5 March, 2020. Other countries may be added to the list if the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) or the College imposes further travel bans.

### If a student has had close contact with people who visited or transited\* through China, Hong Kong, Iran, Italy, South Korea, Japan, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, Mongolia or Singapore\*\*, does she need to self-quarantine?

Yes. Students must remain at home for 14 days after the last day of contact with a person who has visited or transited through the countries listed above, on or after 1 February, even if no symptoms are present.

### Why has the College added countries that are not on the DFAT travel ban list?

The College is monitoring the situation closely and has added countries considered to pose a risk.

### What is the quickest way to contact the school if students can't attend?

To inform the school of your daughter's absence, please fill in the following form in the link: <http://bit.ly/32PrNJ5>. Should you wish to speak with a staff member, please contact your daughter's sub-school office.

<b>Preparatory School</b>	8.00am to 3.45pm	(02) 9855 7720	Prepschool@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au
<b>Junior School</b>	8.00am to 3.45pm	(02) 9855 7700	Juniorschool@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au
<b>Middle School</b>	7.45am to 3.45pm	(02) 9855 7611	Middleschool@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au
<b>Upper School</b>	7.45am to 3.45pm	(02) 9497 7865	Upperschool@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au
<b>Senior School</b>	7.45am to 3.45pm	(02) 9497 7871	Seniorschool@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au

### What medical documentation is required for a student returning to school after a period of self-quarantine?

Please take your daughter to her doctor at the conclusion of her 14th day of incubation and obtain a statement from the doctor outlining:

- the date of the visit to the doctor
- the date of your return from, or transit through, the countries listed above\*\*
- that on this day your daughter appears to be in good health and does not show any of the symptoms of COVID-19.

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## **Do students still need medical documentation even if they have no symptoms after 14 days of self-quarantine?**

Yes. Please see above.

## **If a student has a cough/cold or flu symptoms but hasn't had any contact with a potentially-infected person, can she still come to school?**

No. As per normal procedures, your daughter must not attend school or school-related activities, on or off campus, until she is well. If she has cough, cold or flu symptoms, she needs to rest and recover at home. If you are concerned about your daughter's health, please see your doctor.

## **My daughter has other health concerns, should she come to school?**

Please be advised by your daughter's health specialist regarding her individual circumstances.

## **Is it OK to withhold my daughter from school if I'm ever concerned about her safety?**

Yes, please complete the form emailed to you in the Principal's letter dated 28 January. The link to the form is also provided here: <http://bit.ly/32PrNJs>. Please note, the College will not provide credit for fees or co-curricular-related expenses if parents choose to keep their daughter away from school.

## **How is the College vetting visitors to Pymble?**

All visitors must sign a declaration confirming they have complied with our updated COVID-19 advice. College offices have signs articulating this advice, and visitors from affected areas will be asked to reschedule meetings. Where possible, the College is limiting visitors onto our campus.

## **Will key communications about COVID-19 be available in Mandarin?**

Yes, all correspondence relating to COVID-19 will be translated into Mandarin.

## **Are students permitted to wear masks at school?**

Yes. Students are permitted to wear masks at school if they wish. The College can provide masks for Boarders on request. Day students can bring their own masks.

## **Can parents obtain credit for missed co-curricular activities and Aquatic Centre lessons if their daughter is self-quarantined?**

No. The College will not provide credits for students who miss activities or swimming lessons while the COVID-19 health and safety advice is in place.

## **Do School fees and Boarding fees still apply if a student is self-quarantined?**

Yes. The College will continue to provide access to learning materials, via a digital platform, for Day students and Boarders who are in self-quarantine as a result of choosing to travel while the COVID-19 health and safety advice is in place. It is the responsibility of the student or parent to contact their teacher/s to arrange access to online learning materials during a period of self-quarantine.

## **If a Boarding student cannot join her family in the upcoming holidays as a result of these guidelines, can she stay in the Boarding House?**

Arrangements are in place for all Boarders to enjoy the Easter holidays off campus. We will continue to communicate with our Boarding families to assess their needs and to make any necessary decisions.



## **Are camps, sport and other pre-arranged excursions affected?**

Not at this stage. All sport, activities and excursions (other than international tours and exchanges) will continue. Please refer to the letter from the Principal dated 28 January 2020 for expectations regarding student attendance.

## **What sources has the College used to answer FAQs and establish guidelines?**

The College continues to follow the most recent advice from the [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#), [NSW Health](#), the [World Health Organisation](#) and other authorities to make decisions in the best interests of the health and welfare of our girls, staff and families. We are also in close contact with other schools and are making decisions in the best interests of our community. We will continue to review and update our advice as new information become available.

## **Where can I find the latest health information on COVID-19?**

The Department of Health has posted several publications here:

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources>

The World Health Organisation's advice for the public can be found here:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

The Australian Government has a dedicated COVID-19 Health Information Line, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week: **1800 020 080**

[updated on Tuesday 9 March 2020]