

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### IMPORTANT NOTICE – CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Assalamu Alaikum Parents/Guardians,

We hope this letter reaches you in the best of faith and health.

The health and safety of our students and staff is of utmost importance to us, and we are taking proactive measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within our centres. As we wait on further feedback from the relevant Australian Government departments, **all Alfirdaus College centres will remain open for classes until you are notified otherwise.**

As Muslims, we are reminded of the following:

- We should place our trust in the Qadr of Allah (SWT) as whatever has been decreed is most beneficial for us.
- We should be patient during this trial and seek refuge (protection) in Allah (SWT) through our daily supplications and prayers.

Our team is liaising with local Islamic and health authorities to try to manage our students' health and safety while they are in our care. We have introduced the following measures across all our centres to limit the impact of COVID-19 on our students' Islamic learning:

- All extra-curricular activities, such as our holiday and mentoring programs (TNS), excursions, workshops/seminars and other events, have been cancelled.
- Congregational prayers will be conducted class-by-class in the classroom or in the common area. The after-prayer lecture and discussion have been cancelled. We encourage students to come to class with wudu and to bring their own prayer clothes.
- Class breaks will be held within classrooms. We encourage students to bring their own food and a bottle of water to limit their time outside of the classroom.
- Students will be asked to distance themselves from their peers in all classes, where the classroom size allows.
- Students are encouraged to bring with their own resources (such as pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, coloured pencils etc.) as we endeavour to limit the sharing of these resources between students.
- Hand sanitisers will be provided in classrooms and common areas (subject to availability). Students will be asked to wash and/or sanitise their hands regularly, especially before and during their lesson.

- Students and staff who exhibit any symptoms (such as a fever, cough, sore throat and/or shortness of breath) are kindly asked to stay at home. If you attend our centres and exhibit any symptoms, we may ask you to go home.
- In addition to our regular cleaning schedule, all centres will be sanitised (especially hard surfaces – bathrooms, door handles, tables and chairs).
- We are providing training to all staff on how to prevent and manage the COVID-19 situation should it occur within their centre.

We kindly ask that you follow the advice of the Australian Government and World Health Organisation for minimising the spread of the virus by:

- Avoiding close contact with a person/s who may be exhibiting any symptoms, and avoid touching any objects and surfaces and then touching your face.
- Washing your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the bathroom.
- Cover your cough and sneeze, dispose of tissues immediately, and use alcohol-based sanitiser.
- Self-isolating if you feel unwell and avoid contact with others (stay more than 1.5m from people, if possible).

For the latest advice, information and resources on COVID-19, please visit [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au). Also, you can contact the National Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080. It operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Over the coming weeks, we will continue to monitor the situation closely and will endeavour to communicate with you and act quickly on the advice of health authorities and the Australian Government. In the meantime, we appreciate your support and patience.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Head Office on (02) 9791 6777 or send an email to [info@alfirdaus.com.au](mailto:info@alfirdaus.com.au).

Kind Regards,



Mazen Fahme  
Principal