**COVID-19 Community Policy**

**Reviewed: 6 March 2020**

**Rationale**

The spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) has raised concerns for students, staff, parents and the wider community. Whilst, public health authorities have advised that the current risk remains low in Western Australia, the health and wellbeing of our students, staff, parents and community is paramount. At St Thomas’ we will remain vigilant to any increased risk and take precautionary measures to ensure the safest possible educational environment for children and community. All members of the community must exercise discretion when travelling overseas and their subsequent return to the school premises, regardless of travel location.

**Principles**

1. The health and wellbeing of our students and staff remains our highest priority.
2. Take precautionary measures to ensure the safest possible educational environment for children and our community.
3. St Thomas’ Primary School will continue to work with CEWA and relevant agencies to provide direction and support in managing the coronavirus.

**Procedures**

1. All children wash hands prior to eating recess and lunch
2. Regular use of hand sanitiser
3. Maintain social distance
   1. Avoid shaking hands
   2. Maintain at least 1 metre distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
4. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
5. Practice good respiratory hygiene
   1. Cover your mouth and nose with a bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze, dispose of used tissue and clean hands
6. Remain at home and seek medical advice if you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing
7. Stay at home if you begin to feel unwell, even with mild symptoms such as headache and slight runny nose, until you recover