



17 March 2020

From the desk of the Chief Executive Officer:

Hi members of MEGA family,

I would like to offer a message of support for all those out there who are anxious about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and the impact of it on MEGA family and the community.

In these difficult and challenging times, we acknowledge that the problem of anxiety and fear can be very stressful for most of us and may also have a lasting psychological impact for some.

However, we, at MEGA, would like to assure you of our full support and cooperation in these difficult times. We encourage everyone to do their part by following the advice issued by the regulatory authorities.

In line with the Commonwealth Government, NSW Health and the NSW Department of Education's social distancing strategy as of 16 March 2020, MEGA is implementing a number of practical measures to support the wider NSW Health containment strategies. These measures include:

- Self-isolation for 14 days for all in-coming travellers
- Social distancing of avoiding hugging, kissing, handshakes and crowds in enclosed space with more than 500 people.
- Keep up with your personal hygiene of washing our hands with soap and water on a regular basis, sneeze and cough into your elbow and sanitise your hand where washing is not possible.

While self-isolation and social distancing is encouraged, we would like to clarify the difference between physical distancing as against social distancing. Physical distance by avoiding contact with others totally may caused further issues of racial stereotyping and profiling which will be more harmful to MEGA family and the community as a whole as it would cause more stress during these difficult times.

For now, MEGA have implemented the following additional measures to keep our classroom and campus safe and healthy, in all possible ways:

- We have increased our cleaning efforts, with extra focus on disinfecting surfaces and door handles
- Hand sanitizer dispensers are available across the campus in all classrooms, common areas and office
- All staff members provided with face masks and encouraged to wear on campus to minimise risk of infection and contamination



- High visibility posters and laminated notices creating awareness about the main symptoms of COVID-19 infection and lookout signs with instructions have been put up all across the campus in common areas and classrooms
- Posters and notices about handwashing techniques, coughing and sneezing etiquettes are put up prominently in all classrooms and appropriate locations
- MEGA staff is constantly reminding students and visitors to follow these protocols and instructions while at campus and even outside.
- Teachers have been advised to minimise physical interactions like hi-fives etc. and to try to avoid any group tasks or activities
- Direct and mass communication is being established with students by using emails, social media and text messages to mobile phones to provide update about the pandemic.

Student welfare and Classes:

For new students starting the term, we advise you to please bring your original airline boarding pass / passport with immigration stamp with you, for us to check your date of entering Australia, before proceeding with your enrolment

If you have been in Australia for 14 days, you are advised to please complete the self-isolation period before you commence your classes. During this 14 days, online support will be provided to you.

If you are experiencing any cold or flu symptoms (fever, cough and sore throat, running nose) we advise you to please practice self-isolation and do not come to class / campus, until any of those symptoms disappears. Please be aware that government is very particular about this condition and laws have been activated that may put you at a risk of heavy fines and / or imprisonment, if found to be flouting the norms.

In the meantime, classes will be conducted as usual at MEGA, until advised otherwise by the authorities. Attendance will not be mandatory during this period for those who those students who are not well. As an important and mandatory requirement, all students will be required and expected to wash their hands before entering any class or beginning of any session.

Working hours for MEGA Student Services and Support staff has been re-organized into two shifts to avoid commuting during peak hours rush to reduce risk for all. Students are advised to please make a prior appointment with relevant staff to ensure the right staff are present in the new working hours.

We aim to make and provide all members of MEGA family a sense of support and should any member require support or feel a need to speak to someone, please feel free to contact us on (+612) 9299 6788 or email sso@mega.edu.au.



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We will keep everyone notified of any changes as they develop according to advice and instruction from the government and health authorities. Meanwhile, please keep safe and maintain good hygiene at all times.

For more information on Covid 19, please visit our website: www.mega.edu.au or go to the Australian Department of Health website: www.health.gov.au.

From:
The Desk of the CEO and management team.