

March 16, 2020

Dear Durnacol Clients and staff,

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: Communication for contact learning – COVID-19.

This communication is circulated in light of the presidential address regarding the COVID-19 Virus.

<https://mybroadband.co.za/news/security/342793-urgent-and-drastic-measures-to-stop-the-coronavirus-in-south-africa.html>

The Executive Management has made a proactive decision in response to the pandemic and to ensure we minimise risks to our clients, students and staff the following will take place:

Durnacol Students:

Contact training will be suspended from 18 March 2020 until 27 March 2020. Students are requested to stay in the community and not travel to their hometowns, minimising their contact with affected areas/individuals.

The following groups will still be attending at Durnacol Skills Hub:

- New intake – Diesel (HWSETA) – 40 learners.
- Turners (TETA) - 4 Learners – exiting end March.
- Welders (CHIETA) – 8 Learners – Exiting April
- Placement Learners - 17 – exit end March

Trade Tests/RPL/ARPL

Testing will only be conducted as per already confirmed appointments.

Durnacol Apprentices in the workplace with host-companies:

Please follow your host company's directive on the COVID-19 Virus status and policy.

Misinformation is circulating on social media regarding the virus, we, therefore, encourage parents/guardians and students to monitor the following websites below for more information:

<http://www.nicd.ac.za/what-is-the-coronavirus/>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Please note:

- Students or staff who travelled to infected areas should inform management immediately and monitor themselves daily for symptoms like fever or cough.
- High-risk countries, including Italy, Iran, South Korea, China, Spain, Germany, the UK, and the US.
- South Africans are advised to avoid travelling to or through Europe, the US, the UK, Iran, South Korea and China.

Those who develop symptoms should stay home and call their health-care provider. Students or staff who have been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with the novel coronavirus must stay home for 14 days after their last encounter.

On a final note, some tips to reduce your risk of contracting the flu, colds or the novel coronavirus:

Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If a sink is not available, alcohol-based hand rubs (ABHR) can be used to clean hands if they are not visibly soiled. If they are visibly soiled, using a wipe and then ABHR is effective. Do not touch your face/eyes/mouth with unwashed hands. Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough with a disposable tissue or the crease of your elbow. Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces. Regular household cleaning products are effective against most viruses. Stay home if you are sick and away from others so you don't pass it on.

Read more about proper handwashing:

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>

If we take a few precautions, we can all remain healthy and safe.

Regards

The Management Team