

26 April 2021

Updated COVID restrictions for schools

Dear parent/caregiver,

We hope this letter finds you well.

We are delighted and excited that the recent snap lockdown will conclude at midnight tonight. With our scheduled Parent/Student/Teacher interviews for tomorrow (Tuesday 27 April) and the return of students on Wednesday 28 April, I would like to highlight the following information about the attendance of students and staff to the College. ***Most importantly, individuals are to stay home if feeling unwell.***

Face masks

The most important aspect of the restrictions will be a requirement for all staff members and students in Years 7 to 12 to wear a mask at school, similar to the situation earlier this year.

- For staff and students not to wear a mask, the following exemptions must apply;
 - Staff and students who have been medically referred not to.
 - Communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing and visibility of the mouth is essential for communication;
 - Students are engaged in swimming as a form of physical exercise;
 - Students and staff are consuming food, drink or medicine **provided that they are seated at the time.**
- Please note that staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but can if they wish to do so.
- Students must wear masks **during recess and lunchbreaks**, even if engaged in physical activity on the oval, courts or in the O'Reilly Centre.
- Normal winter uniform rules and expectations apply. Students do not have permission on this occasion to wear the PE Uniform unless permission had previously been granted.

I would ask that you provide your child with a mask so that he/she is fully prepared for Tuesday. Please ensure that if the mask has any decorations or slogans that they are appropriate for a Catholic school.

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews – Tuesday 27 April

A decision has been made in consultation with the authorities to continue with our scheduled Parent/Student/Teacher interviews however, due to physical distancing requirements, we can only allow **one parent per student to attend.** Amendments have also been made to the room allocations for teachers to ensure appropriate distancing.

We appreciate that some parents may make the decision to forego this opportunity to meet with teachers and we respect this right to do so. **Please contact the College on 93505433 or email the teacher directly** if you wish to cancel your interview. Alternative opportunities can always be arranged for feedback by contacting your respective teachers.

Year 10 Retreat – Friday 30th April – postponed due to physical distancing and venue restrictions.

This day will revert to a normal school day for Year 10 students, with an alternate date to be determined later.

Health Department Advice

Information about the Government's announcement is available on the www.gov.au site. The latest health information is available through [WA Health Department](http://www.wa.gov.au).



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As outlined by the Health Department, if you or your family, have visited one of the potential contact exposure sites during the exposure timeframe identified on the Health Department website, you need to attend a COVID clinic for testing and isolate at home until you receive a negative result (if you have not already done so). You are advised to continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days following your visit.

If you experience any symptoms at any time – fever, coughing, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, loss of smell or taste – go to a COVID clinic to be retested. If your child is waiting for the result of a COVID test and is not able to attend school while waiting for a result please inform the College as normal. Furthermore, if your child is showing any signs of illness, please do not send them to school.

Our school staff will continue to work closely with you to ensure that all students can recommence school tomorrow on Tuesday, 27 April in a safe manner. Additional cleaning schedules and the provision of sanitiser in all classrooms and College facilities will continue as normal. Your child's health and wellbeing remains our first priority.

I am sure that you will join with me in praying that, despite these interim restrictions, we can look forward to a successful Term 2. Similarly, we keep in mind those people around the world who continue to suffer from this pandemic.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Harvey
Principal

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