



TERM TWO SCHOOLING ARRANGEMENTS

First and foremost, thank you for your patience and understanding in these very difficult times.

*As a result of developments over the holiday break, Term Two will now be slightly different as to how we envisaged it, with the State Government announcing that parents essentially have the option to keep their child at home, or send their child to school. Catholic Education Western Australia has adjusted to these announcements and is very much in support of the view that from the start of Term Two, parents and caregivers **may choose to keep their children at home** to engage in flexible, remote learning, either online and/or via work packs*

'What is the right thing to do' is a very personal choice, and one that parents will need to consider and make. In terms of our school, what we all ultimately want is for normality to return but that is far from a reality at the moment with the restrictions, concerns, stresses and anxieties COVID 19 has brought to our world.

The reality at school is our students are deeply missed and we want them back. The reality is too, that the safety and wellbeing of our staff and students is paramount and until the need for social distancing, self-isolation and all the other interventions and measure put in place subsides, the capacity to manage our school effectively is hindered.

School will not be the same for some time, but under the circumstances and with the support of parents we will continue to provide as best we can for our families, for our students, whether they choose to work from home or work from school.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I write to you with an update on schooling arrangements for Term Two as set out by Catholic Education Western Australia and to explain the options and interventions St Anne's will be putting in place to address the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, as well as our schools capacity to cater for the education and learning of our students whether they be working from home or beginning to return to our classrooms.

As you may be aware, Premier Mark McGowan announced Term Two arrangements for **public schools** in Western Australia on Friday 17th April. The following sets out St Anne's arrangements for Term Two, which reflects the guiding principles of Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA):

1. The health and safety of our students and staff remain our first priority.
2. All students will continue to be provided with a quality Catholic education.
3. Decisions regarding school education will continue to be informed by national and state-based health and education advice, and align with the National Principles for School Education.

When Term Two commences on Wednesday, 29th April, St Anne's will **provide one mode of learning** until Friday 22nd May, with a review taking place on 18th May.

Please note that as a result of the Premier's decision, an additional professional development day (student free day) has been called by Government for Tuesday 28th April to allow schools to prepare for these changes.

FOUR YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN – YEAR 6 STUDENTS

- From the start of Term Two, parents and caregivers **may choose to keep their children at home** to engage in flexible, remote learning, either online and/or via work packs. As has been the case since our school transitioned to flexible and remote learning in Term One, this approach particularly allows parents and caregivers who are engaged in essential services or are required to maintain employment to send their children to school if they are unable to care for them at home.
- Should parents and caregivers choose to send their children to school, **these students will engage in the same mode of learning being provided to students learning from home**. Schools will provide appropriate supervision but not face-to-face teaching for students attending school in person.

STUDENTS ATTENDING SCHOOL

- Parents and caregivers **need to advise the school if your child will be attending school** from Wednesday 29th April. This is necessary to ensure appropriate plans are in place to comply with the Department of Health's physical distancing advice. It also ensures the school is able to make appropriate arrangements for student supervision while ensuring teaching and learning continues.
- A parent survey will be sent home to gauge this information, however, as the week progresses other means maybe introduced. Parents can also contact the school office on Tuesday 28th April between 9am – 11am should you not have had an opportunity to inform us of your decision to send your child to school (a reminder text will be sent out).
- Medically compromised students are asked to remain at home until they receive a medical clearance to attend school. Online learning and/or work packs will be provided to these students.
- Parents and caregivers are not permitted on school property other than to drop off or pick up their children. If parents and caregivers are walking their children to and from school, they should undertake their drop off or pick up at the three entry points into our school grounds, these being the entry gates on Young Street, Hester Street and Cooper Street. Staff will be present at these points in the morning and the afternoon.
- Special arrangement for drop off and collection of younger students will be relayed to parents once discussed with the Early Years staff, as will protocols for arrangements whereby students who need to arrive late to school or leave school during the school day.
- Assemblies, excursions, interschool activities and school-based co-curricular activities will not recommence until advice is received from the Department of Health that it is safe to do so.
- The school will continue to ensure that environmental cleaning practices are in place, with enhanced routines where necessary.
- Students will be required to continue with the hygiene practices put in place in Term One and will need to follow the physical distancing measures that are needed to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

I wish to reiterate that during this period, our staff will continue to ensure we best support our students' learning from home, as well as those students who may be at school. We acknowledge that it will be important to maintain regular contact between the school and parents and caregivers.

At this difficult time, I wish to reassure every parent and caregiver that the ongoing enrolment of every child in our school is guaranteed. I encourage parents seeking financial support arrangements to discuss one of the following options, which are immediately available to all families with children in Catholic schools:

- The Centrelink Health Care Card Discount Scheme provides an automatic fee concession to the holders of eligible means-tested family concession cards. **This discount applies to all year levels from Kindergarten to Year 12.** Additional financial considerations are also available depending on each family's circumstance.
- For parents and caregivers who do not qualify for the Health Care Card discount, but who are experiencing financial difficulties, arrangements can be made to provide immediate support to assist you with tuition costs.

I will keep you updated with any new information as it becomes available.

Yours sincerely,

Darrin Croft
PRINCIPAL

21st April 2020