



# St Columba's School Bayswater

32 Roberts Street  
BAYSWATER WA 6053  
PO Box 61  
BAYSWATER WA 6933  
Tel: 08 9208 2700

admin@stcolsbays.wa.edu.au  
www.stcolsbays.wa.edu.au

Grow in Faith    Seek Wisdom    Live in Peace

21 April 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

## TERM 2 UPDATE – School Operations

Thank you firstly for your understanding and compassion with this situation that we are currently all facing, the support of the community has been extraordinary during this time. The next phase of schooling and regulations will be challenging for us all in terms of being very different to the normal day to day operation of the school. We will be conducting the first four weeks of school in Term Two as the remote learning model. This will be reviewed by CEWA on 18 May where further information will be provided to the community.

As you may be aware, Premier Mark McGowan announced Term Two arrangements for **public schools** in Western Australia on Friday 17 April. The following sets out St Columba's School 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, 29 April, St Columba's School will provide **one mode of learning – remote learning** until Friday 22 May.

## **THREE-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. 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.***
- 3 Year-Old Kindergarten for students who attended in Term 1, will continue as previously. There will be no second group commencing until we transition out of this current COVID-19 operation situation.
- Any child that is unwell, **must not** attend school. If a child becomes unwell during the day parents will need to immediately pick up their child once contacted by administration.

## **STUDENTS ATTENDING SCHOOL**

- Parents and caregivers need to advise the school if your child will be attending school from Wednesday 29 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 survey will come out tomorrow for response by Thursday 23 April at 5.00 pm.
- Medically compromised students are asked to remain at home until they receive a medical clearance to attend school.

- Parents and caregivers are not permitted on school property other than to drop off or pick up their children, at which time they must not exit their vehicle. A detailed explanation of how this will operate will be out later in the week as we work with the City of Bayswater to ensure we meet regulations for extra Kiss and Drive pick-up and drop-off areas on Milne Street and Roberts Street.
- If parents need to collect students during the day – please call the administration (they will sign children in and out) and we will arrange for your child to be at the school office, where they will be directed to you at the front gate. Please do not come onto the school site.
- Only those visitors who are delivering essential supplies are to be permitted on school properties.
- 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.
- Canteen for morning tea and snacks will remain closed until further notice. We will have advice on the continued use of the Chisholm canteen in the coming days.
- 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, however at any time you wish to contact me please don't hesitate to do so. My direct email is [art.lombardi@cewa.edu.au](mailto:art.lombardi@cewa.edu.au).

We will continue to work with our families on providing the very best we can in what are changing times. We continue to be positive in our outlook to ensure all in our St Columba's School community are cared for and are supported.

Thank you again for your continued support of our staff.

Goodness your way



Art Lombardi  
Principal

Next items for correspondence:

- Survey for attendance notification [Out Wednesday 22 April]
- Pick-Up and Drop-Off Procedures for Term 2 [Out Thursday 23 April]