



14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians

Happy new year to you all. I hope you are continuing to enjoy the school holiday break with your families.

Before the commencement of Term One I write to inform our parents about arrangements, thus far, for the start of school. We continue to be fortunate living here in Western Australia, however, as you may be following on the media, we need to be mindful about the COVID-19 situation once the borders open on 5th February.

Staff

The school will do all we possibly can to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, parents, and visitors. The government mandate about vaccinations for school staff and regular contractors working in schools ensures our staff and contractors are fully vaccinated when school commences on 31st January.

Parents and Volunteers

Parents/grandparents and other carers are **not required** to be vaccinated when:

- dropping off or picking up their child from school.
- volunteering at school on an ad hoc basis – which means attendance at no more than one education facility no more than once per week.
- attending an event such as an assembly or parent teacher interview; or
- entering the school after hours.

Parents/grandparents and other carers **are required** to provide double dose vaccination evidence from 31 January 2022 or exemption when:

- volunteering at the school/s more than once a week (this includes volunteering at the school canteen, exchanging reading books or volunteering in classrooms).
- working in an unpaid capacity at the school/s more than once a week.



The following are acceptable forms of evidence of COVID-19 vaccination or exemption:

- written confirmation of the COVID-19 vaccination issued by the Department of Health
- the COVID-19 digital certificate.
- an International COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate issued by the Commonwealth Government. This shows the COVID-19 vaccination recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register
- medical exemption issued by the Australian Immunisation Register
- a temporary exemption granted by the WA Chief Health Officer

We are committed to ensuring our school is a COVID-19 safe space. The school has been thoroughly cleaned during the holidays. This includes a deep cleaning of the carpets, vent cleaning and spring cleaning of windows, drink fountains, bathrooms, and all surfaces. When classes commence on 31st January all surfaces in classrooms will be sanitised daily. Hand sanitiser is available in each classroom and students are required to sanitise regularly throughout the day. Classroom windows can be opened to ensure ventilation.

The Department of Health has provided clear directions regarding the requirements to keep students, staff members and our community safe. If you have any queries, please contact me.

I anticipate that there will be further information about the commencement of Term One from Catholic Education WA and the Department of Education over the coming weeks. I will do all I can to ensure our parents are informed as much as possible.

I look forward to welcoming students, families, and staff back to school on Monday 31st January.

Kind regards

Therese Hussey

Principal

MATTHEW GIBNEY
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



UNDER GOD'S PROTECTION

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