



# St Mary MacKillop College

CHOOSE LIFE WITH COURAGE

22 April 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The COVID-19 landscape continues to change, as we embark on the next 'transition period' for schools as determined by the Government. I want to thank you, first of all, for your wonderful support and acknowledgement of teaching staff who developed our Remote Learning model, widely acknowledged as one of the best in the State.

At the end of Term 1, every indication was that we would be delivering Remote Learning to all students for at least Term 2. Despite rigorous measures continuing in every other facet of our society, the Government is keen to transition schools back to normality. Throughout this, I am mindful that I have the safety, health and wellbeing (and the education) of more than 1400 children, and 170 staff to consider as well as their families.

On Friday 17 April, Premier Mark McGowan announced Term 2 arrangements for **public schools** in Western Australia. I have now also received a directive from Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) announcing the arrangements for **Catholic Schools** for Term 2. To ensure equitable access to learning by all students, teachers are asked to **deliver one mode of learning only** from Wednesday 29 April until Friday 22 May, with a review taking place on the 18 May.

The initial transition plan for the College, following Government and CEWA directives, is that **Year 11 and 12 students return to face to face teaching**. In order to ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of these students and staff, **all other students from K-10 will continue our Remote Learning model**, as was the case at the end of Term 1. It is our preference, after safety has been solidly re-established, for all students to eventually return to the College.

**Term 2 will now commence on Wednesday 29 April**, with Tuesday 28 being a Pupil Free Day.

## YEARS K-10

**Remote Learning will continue for all students in Years K-10 (either online and/or via work packs), as per the last week of Term 1.** Parents and caregivers sending their children to school should note that **they will engage in the same online learning and/or completion of work packs being provided to students learning from home**, and will be supervised by teaching staff. **No face-to-face teaching will be provided** to students in Years K-10 who attend the school in person during this transition period. This ensures equitable access to learning by all students, and enables us to support parents and caregivers who are engaged in essential services, or are required to maintain employment and unable to care for children at home during school hours, as was the case at the end of Term 1.

If your child will be attending the College during this transition period, please complete the following form [Attending the College](#) and submit by Friday 24 April 3pm. This information is vital to enable us to plan adequate space and supervision that will ensure social distancing measures can be enforced.

All students attending the College will be required to adhere to strict social distancing measures in the classroom, at recess and lunch breaks. Please note playgrounds will be closed. Further details on Attending the College can be found below.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be limited access to facilities and classrooms in the secondary campus for students attending in Years 7-10, who may also be placed in multi-aged groups. This is necessary to enable over 300 Year 11 and 12 students returning to the College to abide by social distancing measures.

## **YEARS 11-12**

**Face-to-face learning in class with their teachers will be the mode of learning for Year 11 and Year 12 students from Wednesday 29 April.** Students in these two year groups are strongly encouraged to attend school to ensure they meet the requirements for WACE graduation and ATAR. All students will adhere to strict social distancing measures in the classroom, at recess and lunch breaks. Learning and break spaces will be modified to ensure 1.5m distancing, and staff will be enforcing these rules to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff. Further pastoral care information will be provided by Heads of Year prior to the start of term.

## **ATTENDING THE COLLEGE**

### **Health, safety and wellbeing**

The health, safety and wellbeing of students and staff remains our first priority. Please note the following precautions in place for all those attending the College during this transition period:

- If any child or staff member is unwell, they should not attend school and should seek medical advice. Medically compromised students and staff should continue to remain at home until they receive a medical clearance to attend school.
- Parents and caregivers are not permitted to exit their vehicles when dropping off or collecting their children who are attending school during this transition period. If you are walking your children to and from school or you have children in Kindy/Pre Primary, please drop-off or pick-up at the school gates.
- Students and staff during this transition period will be required to abide by strict social distancing measures in the classroom and during breaks, including no physical contact and remaining 1.5m apart at all times.
- Learning and break spaces will be modified to ensure 1.5m distancing, playgrounds will be closed and extra cleaning of high traffic areas/surfaces will take place. Visitors will not be permitted on school property unless delivering essential supplies.
- 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.

### **Uniforms**

During this period of transition, students attending school may wear either summer or winter formal College uniform (no sports uniform).

### **Canteen**

The canteen will be available for students and staff attending the College.

I greatly appreciate your support and assistance during this vital transition phase.

Regards



Mr Frank Norton  
Principal