



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

30 April 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

COVID-19 Update

Hope you are all travelling well and enjoying this magnificent weather today. Thank you again for your continued understanding with how things are ever changing. Thanks for being adaptable and moving with flexibility. As we head into a new phase for the next week, please note the following details:

Yesterday evening, Premier Mark McGowan announced that COVID-19 restrictions in the Perth metropolitan area and Peel region will be eased from 12.01am Saturday 1 May. Modified restrictions will remain in place until 12.01am on Saturday 8 May 2021.

The easing of restrictions is very positive news for our school and will mean that many of our planned activities will be able to resume with minimal disruption. Below is an outline of the arrangements and restrictions as they apply to our school.

Mask Wearing

- All staff members in the Perth and Peel regions will still be required to wear a mask **whilst indoors** when at school. Staff are not required to wear a mask while teaching. The requirement to wear masks outdoors will be relaxed unless physical distancing is not possible.
- Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 in the Perth and Peel region are not required to wear a mask, but their teachers and support staff must continue to wear masks.

Parents, caregivers and visitors on school premises

- Parents, caregivers and visitors to schools in the Perth and Peel regions must wear a mask and adhere to COVID-safe guidelines while they are **indoors** on a school site. If parents, caregivers and visitors are outdoors on a school site, masks must be worn if physical distancing is not possible.

School assemblies and indoor activities

- Indoor venues with fixed seating are able to operate at 100% capacity. This includes theatres, concert halls, cinemas and performing arts centres.
- Masks are mandatory for indoor public venues with exemption for medical reasons and for primary school aged children or younger.
- Indoor facilities including school halls, gymnasiums, libraries, community centres, museums, galleries and recreation centres may open subject to observing the two square metre rule.
- Masks are required to be worn at all indoor venues, with exemption for medical reasons or for primary school aged children and younger.

Outdoor venues and activities

- Outdoor sport can resume with spectators, as can outdoor events within schools.
- If outdoors, spectators or attendees, are required to wear masks where physical distancing is not possible. This may be the case at the Mother's Day Breakfast next week.

Mother's Day Celebrations

- *The Mother's Day Breakfast* will go ahead as planned. Please see notice attached. **Mask wearing may be required by adults if we are unable to maintain social distancing on the morning.** Thank you to our dads who have volunteered to assist with the breakfast.
- *The Mother's Day Mass is cancelled due to being an indoor venue.* Our church does not have the capacity to cater for a whole school Mass, including students, staff and parents. Fr Andrew will attend the breakfast and gather everyone for a blessing of our mums.
- *Please note:* It is imperative orders for the breakfast are placed by the date set, Monday 3 May. Please ensure this is prioritised this weekend for Monday. As you can appreciate the catering for such an event in these times of COVID-19, requires parents to have confirmed their attendance.

We are grateful to all in our school community, students, parents and staff – for your support in ensuring our school remains a safe environment for all, especially considering the current disruptions to school life. We are indeed blessed that the measures taken have proven so successful and that students in WA are able to engage in their learning with minimal disruption.

We ask that you keep in your prayers communities around the world who continue to experience extreme hardship and suffering in this time. As St Columba's people, we are always grateful for what we have. Thank you for always supporting each other in making the world we live in a better place for everyone.

May you always receive an abundance of goodness.

In gratitude



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