



**This information was last updated and is current as at Tuesday May 5. Additional updates will be provided as required and when information changes.**

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you to further clarify arrangements at the College for Term 2, and provide you with additional information about our operations as we respond to the COVID – 19 pandemic.

We will need to continue reviewing our operations at the College over the coming weeks, as we adjust to the changing circumstances and how these apply to the education sector as outlined by the Department of Education's response to the COVID – 19 pandemic.

Please remember that if urgent mental health advice and support is required for yourself or your children, there is a 24 hour crisis support line 1800 048 636.

### **College access for parents/carers**

The requirement that parents/carers drop their children off at school only, and do not enter the College grounds has not yet changed.

As such, if you need to contact the College could you please phone on 9262 7777 or email on [Ballajura.cc@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Ballajura.cc@education.wa.edu.au) and we will work with you to resolve any enquiries. Thank you for your understanding and support of this requirement.

### **Student attendance and study**

There has been an increasing number of students returning to the College since commencing Term 2. Our student attendance rates are similar to other Public schools and we anticipate that the attendance rate of our students will continue to grow.

Students who have returned to school are receiving their normal timetabled classes. Technology classes have suspended the practical aspects of these courses (e.g. cooking) until further guidance and information is provided by the Department for the resumption of these subject components.

Physical Education equipment is permitted for use in schools. We are ensuring that equipment is disinfected before and after use. Students are also required to clean their hands before and after each class.

Assemblies, extra curriculum activities, special events, incursions and excursions are still postponed. Senior school student work placement can now resume if agreement that it is appropriated to do so, and permission is provided by parents/carers, the student, the employer and the College.

If you are not sending your child to school due to the COVID – 19 situation, please remember your children can access school work from SEQTA. Instructions are on the College website to assist with accessing SEQTA if not already done so. You can also contact the College on 9262 7777 for assistance with this.

If you are not sending your children to College due to the COVID – 19 situation, please let us know so we can amend our attendance records accordingly.

If you do not have viable internet access or sufficient devices at home for your child to access SEQTA and or email, please contact the College to discuss alternate arrangements for accessing your child's course work.

Parents/carers are reminded that if your child or children are sick with seasonal cold or flu to please keep them at home. This is in line with standard expectations and practice and is an important requirement at this time.

## **Cleaning and hygiene**

In addition to the normal cleaning schedules before and after school, additional cleaners have been appointed to work throughout the school day to disinfect 'high touch' items including door handles, door frames, benches, taps, toilet cisterns etc.

All classrooms have hand sanitiser, disinfectant and paper towels for staff and student use, and where possible, students and staff are being encouraged to socially distance as appropriate.

## **Canteen**

Our canteen is open, and as directed by the Department we are serving 'takeaway' food and drinks only. All canteen staff have undertaken the COVID-19 Infection 19 Control Training module provided by the Federal Government Department of Health. The Canteen floor has been clearly marked to minimise contact whilst waiting in line. Please remember meals will not be permitted to be delivered to students during the school day.

## **Health and wellbeing**

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic infection rate has been dramatically reduced, the fallout from the coronavirus continues to impact schools, families and the broader community. Many in our community are still finding these times very difficult to manage, while also having to deal with a range of situations that have not been experienced in the past.

As I have mentioned before, keeping focused on the health of our loved ones, keeping our families connected, our children safe, and providing a calm and secure environment for them continues to be important as we navigate through these difficult times.

Our thoughts and best wishes remain with you. We continue to work hard to be prepared for the educational changes we are experiencing, and look forward to resuming our normal operations as soon as is possible.

Thank you for your continuing support, understanding and efforts. They are very much appreciated by myself and the College staff.

Yours sincerely,

Leigh Cottrill

Principal