



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome

I hope all of your young people have started the year well. For our Year 7 students I hope the first day nerves have settled down now they have a week of experience at the College and for our Year 12 students I hope the realization of the final year of their schooling is met with excitement and a passion to achieve everything possible in 2022. It has been great to visit classrooms and see students fully engaged in curriculum activities. We have welcomed students back with a range of new and familiar lessons and it is great to see the Gym back in action for Physical Education lessons.

COVID Planning

At Ballajura Community College we are committed to ensuring our College remains safe for students, staff and families in 2022.

We are committed to delivering quality teaching to children across WA throughout COVID-19 disruptions. Our main method of curriculum delivery in case of our College being Shutdown will be via SEQTA.

Information on how to access SEQTA is on the school website. [Welcome — SEQTA Learn \(bcc.wa.edu.au\)](http://www.bcc.wa.edu.au) If you or your child are having difficulties in accessing this resource please contact 9262 7777 for assistance.

Unfortunately, the new guidelines provided by the Department of Education have meant that we have had to cancel our whole school assembly scheduled for later this term and the Year 7 Welcome BBQ event scheduled for Thursday this week. We will endeavour to find creative solutions to continue to connect with our school community.

We are following the latest advice from the Department of Education who are monitoring, adapting and responding to the current public health advice of the Western Australia's Chief Health Officer.

We are prepared with COVID-19 safe measures including:

- mandatory vaccination and third dose requirements for all school staff
- proof of vaccination for regular visitors to school sites in line with public health advice
- enhanced hygiene and other health and safety measures
- ventilation strategy, including air purifiers and CO2 monitors
- being ready to adapt and respond based on health advice
- continuity of teaching and learning.

We are currently planning and implementing further ways to minimise the risk of COVID-19 entering or being transmitted at schools including:

- moving parent-teacher interviews to online or over the phone;
- changing indoor face-to-face events;
- cancelling or postponing school camps;

- limiting the mingling of groups; and
- investigating modifying timetables, break times, and pick-up and drop-off times, where practical.

As new information becomes available to the College, I will share it with you as soon as possible. Please continue to monitor the health and wellbeing of your families and let us know if we can support your young people in any way. I would also like to thank those families who are working to keep everyone safe by keeping sick young people at home. This is not only important for COVID-19 but a range of other illnesses that can be easily spread.

We are working through these changes and you will receive further communications as the details are confirmed. For more information on the high caseload protocols visit WA.gov.au.

Thank you for your understanding as we take the necessary steps to keep our school safe and open for learning.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 9262 7777.

Staff Changes

This year we would like to welcome a group of new staff to the College. We welcome Luke Simpson and Peter Errington to the English Department, Louise Rao in Science, Adam Bishop to the Arts, Andrew Morris to Technologies and Cassie Chadd to Education Support. We will also have a new position in the College this year for a Career Practitioner and to this position we welcome Kevin McDonald.

Visiting the College Campus

In the current settings, parents and carers can no longer enter classrooms, including to volunteer. Volunteering in the canteen or at the uniform shop is still permitted, while following the WA Government mask wearing mandates, and physical distancing from other adults.

You are allowed on school grounds for drop-off and pick-up in outdoor locations, but please physically distance, avoid gathering where possible and follow mask wearing requirements as applicable in your region.

Proof of vaccination or exemption is not required for student pick up or drop off or meetings with staff. Proof of vaccination or exemption will be required for regular volunteers, pre service teachers and contractors to the school.

Masks are required in the following settings in Perth and Peel (including Rottnest Island), the South West, Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions:

- at all public indoor settings, including the workplace
- in all vehicles unless the person is travelling alone or with members of the same household
- at residential aged or disability care facilities, both indoors and outdoors
- at a hospital.

Anyone who has been in the Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions since January 20 must also follow the mask requirements for two weeks after leaving these regions. It is recommended you wear a mask outdoors where physical distancing is not possible.

There are exemptions from wearing a face mask, including for medical reasons and primary school aged children or younger.

Dress Code

Dress Code at Ballajura Community College is an important part of the College ethos. The College Board fully endorses the Dress Code and it is very widely supported by the community, students and staff. The Dress Code also serves to ensure the safety of all on the school site by identifying outsiders.

The College requires all students to be in Dress Code at all times. Maintaining acceptable standards of the Dress Code is a requirement of Good Standing at the College. All parents and students are asked to agree to the Dress Code requirements upon enrolment. NAVY is the colour for all pants, skirts and shorts. All tops must be NAVY College polo shirts carrying the College logo. Students are welcome to wear NAVY long sleeve shirts underneath their school tops but the school logo must be visible. Any jacket or jumper being worn over the school top must have the school logo as well. There are a variety of styles of dress code available in the Uniform shop. Note: We have a policy of lending clothing compliant with the Dress Code if the need arises. Please contact the College if you have any queries regarding the Dress Code.

Our uniform shop is currently experiencing some supply chain concerns at the moment. Can I please encourage all families to ensure they have ordered the appropriate winter jumper/jackets from the uniform shop as they may take some time to arrive. This way we will ensure that all students uphold our high standard of uniform even in the cooler months.

Kind regards

Belinda Hall

Principal