

School : All schools  
Case : COVID-19 letter  
Date : 16 March 2020



ST ANDREW'S  
Catholic Primary School

## STATEMENT TO STAFF / PARENTS / CAREGIVERS

Dear parents/carers

I am aware that there may be some concern amongst our school community at the moment regarding the COVID-19 virus and the health of students.

Please let me reassure you that the safety and wellbeing of every one of our students is our highest priority.

We are working closely with CEWA support staff and following the advice of the Department of Health in dealing with risks posed by COVID-19. Our school is taking all reasonable measures to prevent the spread of the virus at school.

It is important to acknowledge that it can be normal to feel worried or anxious about this situation, parents and children alike. If your children are worried about this virus, you can help them by providing reassurance and perspective – it is unlikely that they will get sick, but if they do, they will go to the doctor. Most children have mild symptoms and feel well again soon. Also remember that speaking with them about increased handwashing, covering their mouth when coughing, sneezing into their elbow and general good hygiene practices will help them feel empowered in this time.

Please keep in mind that as leaders of our school communities, we have an important part to play in promoting good hygiene and public health messages with our students and families that will help contain the spread of this virus and protect those in the community who are at the greatest risk.

As a Catholic community, we can extend our prayers for all of those impacted in Australia and abroad, and show care and support for all members of our community. Much like the flu that affects many people each year, it is not out of the question that people we know may be ill with symptoms caused by COVID-19, and if so, it is important that we offer them our support, while we follow advice from health authorities.

If you would like to talk to your children about the virus, here are some useful resources:

- **How to talk to your kids about coronavirus**

<https://www.nbcnews.com/better/lifestyle/how-talk-your-kids-about-coronavirus-ease-their-fears-ncna1129851>

- **This is a comic for children explaining the coronavirus**

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

- **A 4-minute animated clip for children on coronavirus**

<https://www.brainpop.com/health/diseasesinjuriesandconditions/coronavirus/>

For the latest information on the virus, preventative measures, or what to do if you or your child become sick, please visit: [https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A\\_E/Coronavirus](https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus)

For information on who should or shouldn't attend school, please refer to:  
<https://www.cewa.edu.au/novel-coronavirus-update/>

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Dear Parents

Listed below are the amendments to the school calendar for the remainder of the Term.

1. Swimming – postponed/cancelled.
2. Year 4 Assembly on 20 March – postponed to later in the year.
3. First Reconciliation on 21 March – postponed to later in the year. Father and I will continue to carefully monitor the situation and keep you in the loop.
4. Year 6 Extreme Games on 2 April – cancelled.
5. Easter Assembly on 9 April – cancelled.
6. Stations of the Cross on 9 April – cancelled.
7. ANZAC Day Service on 28 April – cancelled.
8. Free Dress Day – postponed to later in the year.
9. NAPLAN – we are unsure at the moment if this will go ahead. We will keep you informed.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused but we feel it necessary to make these amendments and keep you up to date with any information.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Fontaine'.

**Sam Fontaine**  
Principal

SF/mrr/admin/finance/correspondence

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16 March 2020

Dear Parents

**Re: Swimming Lessons**

Please note that due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic we have been instructed to postpone, possibly cancel the swimming lessons as availability in our Term calendars make it difficult to reschedule.

We are however looking at all options and will update you if there is new information on swimming lessons.

With regards to your payment of \$105.00 per student you will have three options.

- a. Have the money taken off your school fees;
- b. Have the money returned into your bank account; and
- c. If we don't hear from you at all it will automatically be taken off your school fees.

Please tick and return the section below.

Kind regards

**Sam Fontaine**  
Principal

SF/mrr/admin/finance/correspondence

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Please tick the preferred option below and return to the office:

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**Option A:** Please credit our school fees.

**Option B:** Please return money into our bank account. Details below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank: \_\_\_\_\_ BSB: \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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