



Return to School – Parent/Carers and Visitors **Initiatives to Reduce Risk**

Resources

- Tasmanian Catholic Education Office (TCEO) Term Two 2020 COVID-19 Arrangements Family Factsheet and Frequently Asked Questions
- Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) *Advice on Reducing the Potential Risk of COVID-10 Transmission in Schools (24/02/2020)*;
- Safe Work Australia *How to Clean and Disinfect Your Workplace 30/04/2020*
- Worksafe Tasmania *COVID-19 Safety Plan – Medium Business Template*
- Worksafe Tasmania Checklist – *How to Keep Your Workplace Safe and Limit the Spread of COVID-19.*

Physical Distancing

Risk: Close proximity of students to each other; close proximity of staff and students; close proximity of staff to other staff.

The greatest risk of transmission in the school environment is between adults. It is of utmost importance that teachers and parents alike maintain physical distancing between themselves and each other at school.

(Note: The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee advised at 24th April 2020 that the venue density rules of no more than one person per 4 square metres is no longer appropriate or practical in classrooms or corridors, nor maintaining 1.5 metres between students during classes or activities)

Return to School – Messages to Parents/Carers

- Social distancing rules (as described above) are no longer applicable to students at school.
- No sick children at school; parents/carers will be asked to pick up any student who presents as unwell.
- Parent drop off and collection. These are interim measures and we respectfully ask that you abide by them to ensure yours and staff safety.
 - No parent/carers in classrooms.
 - Please drop your children at Kiss and Drop or at the Quorn Street gate if possible. Parents of Prep, Years 1 and 2 may drop them at the Basketball Court.
 - Please collect your child at Kiss and Drop or on Quorn Street or if necessary, near the Primary playground area. Please do not arrive too early and congregate with other parents/carers. Please leave promptly after collecting your child. Please adhere to social distancing whilst waiting.
 - If you need to speak to the teacher or other staff members, please email them prior to make arrangements.
 - Contact with the College Office should only need to occur when picking up sick children. All other enquiries should be via phone or email.
 - If you have other children with you at pick up and drop off please note that they will not be permitted to use the play equipment. The playground will be closed before school and after school.
 - **Kinder** - Kinder Students are to be dropped or collected via the Nelson Road Kinder Gate or walked to Kinder with siblings if coming from Kiss and Drop.
 - **Before school / After School / Long Day Care** - Parents using the before school / after school and long day care services are to drop and collect children from the Nelson Road side entrance. Please ring the doorbell to alert staff.



Cleaning and personal hygiene practices

In addition to normal cleaning practices:

- Extra cleaning of all door handles, taps, desks, shiny desktops, shared equipment, computers, keyboards, tablets, touchscreens and phones.
- Doors and windows are being opened where possible. Please ensure your child has a school jumper/jacket at school.
- Soap and water as well as hand sanitiser is accessible to all students. Students will be instructed to wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Discouraging the sharing of food or drinks, pens/pencils and other equipment.

Classroom practices:

There will be clear procedures in place for entering and exiting the classroom. Where possible directional flow arrows will be in place to limit cross traffic.

Hand Hygiene will be implemented at the commencement of all lessons, before and after breaks.

Equipment, educational toys (puzzles, lego) etc will be utilised on a rotational basis, with hand hygiene.

Equipment, such as computers and photocopiers, will be wiped down between users.

Limitations on student activities

Although face-to-face teaching will resume, a number of COVID-19 related limitations associated with school operations will remain in place until further notice:

Permissible student-based activities post 24 May 2020

- a. Normal classroom teaching / learning activities
- b. Existing class structures
- c. On school grounds physical education (PE)
- d. Organised Vocational Education Training (VET) work placements
- e. Single class religious events held on school premises
- f. Recess
- g. Lunch
- h. Student transport to and from school
- i. Humanitarian Entrant enrolments
- j. Visits by parish clergy for religious education purposes provided physical distancing and hygiene requirements are adhered to
- k. Visits by CET staff provided there is no reasonable alternative means for achieving the purpose of the visit
- l. Established specialist teacher services

Non-permissible student-based activities post 24 May 2020 include, but not limited to:

- a. Assemblies
- b. School performances involving audiences that include parents, carers and other visitors e.g. musicals, plays
- c. Excursions
- d. Incursions (CET employees are exempt)
- e. Inter school events and competitions
- f. Sports carnivals
- g. Camps



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- h. Learn to swim
- i. Interstate and overseas travel
- j. Visits to offsite churches / religious activities
- k. Any other student-based activity not listed above and which would increase the risk of COVID-19 infection occurring in a school

Non-permissible school activities post 24 May 2020 include, but not limited to:

- a. Fundraising
- b. Socials/discos
- c. Fairs
- d. Fetes
- e. Public Mass
- f. Open days
- g. Parent teacher evenings
- h. School advisory board meetings
- i. Parents and friends' meetings
- j. Setup for Success events
- k. School staff attendance at off-site face-to-face professional learning (PL) and network meetings
- l. School staff attendance at intra-state staff meetings
- m. All school interstate and overseas travel for 2020
- n. All staff interstate and overseas business travel for 2020
- o. Any other school activity not listed above which would increase the risk of COVID-19 infection occurring in a school

Feelings about returning to School

In our [Podcasts for Parents](#) series, Year 3 teacher Norma Cooper has spoken to our College Counsellor, Linda Howe about the worries that some students may be feeling about returning to school after such a considerable time away. Linda offers advice on preparing students for the return, ways to reduce potential anxiety and the protocols in place for the safe return of students.

[Click here](#) to listen to the podcast via SoundCloud.

Thank you again for your support
Yours sincerely

Fiona Nolan