



Holy Trinity School

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Dear Families,

The NSW Government has released updated COVID-19 guidelines for school in preparation for Term 1.

Our continued focus must continue to be the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff, students and communities.

Families are reminded to ensure they are required to:

- Check the latest COVID-19 case locations in NSW and follow the recommended actions if they have been in a location where there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Monitor the site and follow the relevant health advice if you have been at any of the locations at the specified dates and times.

We will continue to monitor and be guided by the health advice issued by the NSW Government.

The information below is a summary of the changes that impact schools.

Area of change	Change
Parents and carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parents and carers should be reminded that students must not attend school if they are unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms. Students must return a negative COVID-19 test and be symptom free prior to returning to school.• Parents and carers can enter the school to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ purchase or pick up uniforms from the uniform shop○ meet with school staff with an appointment○ drop off students for Preschool, Kindergarten and Years 1, 2 and 7○ attend parent orientation meetings for Preschool, Kindergarten or Year 7 and 'meet the teacher' meetings with school staff for all year/stage groups. Meetings should be limited to 1 hour where possible. A COVID-19 Safety Plan must be in place.• Gatherings are limited to 30 people indoors and 30 people outdoors for schools within Greater Sydney, including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Wollongong or 100 people outdoors for all other locations. Gatherings should be limited to 1 hour where possible and a COVID-19 Safety Plan must be in place.• P&F meetings can occur after school hours with restrictions.• Community outdoor social events and functions and can proceed afterschool hours with a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. These are limited to 30 people outdoors for schools within Greater Sydney, including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Wollongong or 100 people outdoors for all other locations.
School activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Term 1 school development days can proceed for staff within the same school or local school network with no limits to the number of attendees.• Professional learning can proceed for staff within the same school or local school network and may include local nonschool based staff with strict adherence with physical distancing and personal hygiene practices.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If schools wish to hold Professional Learning that involves more participants and/or exceeds 1 hour in duration, they will require a COVID-19 Safety Plan for functions and conferences. • Staff residing and working in Greater Sydney, including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Wollongong regions should avoid travel to regional areas where possible. • NSW Health advised that communal water fountains and/or bubblers in NSW schools can now be turned on. Schools should continue to encourage students to bring water bottles from home that they can refill when needed. • Field trips, excursions and camps to VIC, QLD and ACT can continue where interstate border requirements permit. • Swimming and other sporting carnivals can proceed with a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. • Gala days, placement tests, school performances, Schools Spectacular and other major school events can be planned for 2021 with a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. • Students must not attend aged care facilities for school activities.
Face masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and students are not required to wear masks while at school. Staff and students are permitted to wear their own mask if they choose.
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are reminded they must not attend work if they are unwell or have even the mildest of symptoms. • Staff must return a negative test and be symptom free prior to returning to school. • Staff in the vulnerable category can resume work as planned. Principals and staff should contact the Catholic Schools Office for advice where required. • Staff must maintain physical distancing, good personal hygiene practices and comply with the published procedures and guidelines at all times.
Suspected and Confirmed COVID-19 Case Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools will continue to be supported in managing any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 affecting school operations.

In addition to the change listed above, the following guidelines remain in place.

Singing:

Group singing and chanting remains a high-risk activity for COVID-19 transmission. The existing restrictions will continue, but the need for these restrictions will be monitored.

In secondary schools, no more than 5 performers should sing indoors. There is no recommended cap on performers singing outdoors. All performing singers should face forwards and not towards each other, have physical distancing of 1.5m between each other and any other performers, and be 5m from all other people including the audience and conductor, where practical. In indoor areas, audience members should not participate in singing or chanting. In outdoor areas, audience members older than 12 years should wear masks if singing or chanting.

Physical distancing for students:

Physical distancing of children in schools is not required by the AHPPC guidelines. Schools should restrict activities to year groups where possible to limit close contacts to those within year groups. Schools should avoid activities where students visit other school sites to the small number of activities detailed within these guidelines.

Comprehensive details of the Term 1 2021 guidelines for schools can be located [here](#).

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions or concerns.



Mrs Jillian Rainger
Principal