

# Safety at Holy Cross: Families Update

Mid-Term 2, 2025

## Message from our Leaders

As part of our recent four-year review process, we've begun making some small but important changes to our school's practices and procedures. These updates are designed to ensure we remain fully aligned with MACS policies and the Child Safe Standards.

We've been carefully testing how best to implement these changes in our day-to-day operations, with a focus on ensuring they are both practical and sustainable. Our aim is to ensure that any changes we implement are not only compliant but also achievable and manageable for our staff and school community.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of every child at Holy Cross.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to keeping our students safe.

### VICTORIAN CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

## CHILD SAFE STANDARD 10

### REVIEW OF CHILD SAFETY PRACTICES

Ensure that implementation of the Child Safe Standards (including Ministerial Order No. 1359) is regularly reviewed and improved.



[Click here for more information of Child Safety in MACS Schools.](#)

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## SCHOOL CAR PARK

To ensure the safety of all children, students may no longer walk unaccompanied between moving vehicles in the car park. We kindly ask that all parents and carers accompany their children when moving through the carpark.

To support this, a teacher has now been assigned to supervise pickup and drop off areas during these busy times.



## Weekend Parking

Over recent weekends, increased traffic from local sports activities has unfortunately led to some damage to our school grounds. As there are no staff on-site during weekends to monitor activity and ensure safety, we've made the decision to temporarily close the school grounds to the public.

We've been in positive discussions with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, who have been understanding and supportive of our position. We're working together to find a long-term solution that balances community access with the safety and care of our facilities.

We're also grateful for the support we've received from our local community as we navigate this change. We'll continue to keep you informed as plans develop.



## Line-Up Routines

To ensure transitions throughout the day happen quickly and safely, students are now lining up in a predetermined line-order.

This important measure helps staff maintain clear supervision and keeps movement orderly, which has already led to improved behaviour and reduced delays between activities. With smoother transitions, we're able to spend less time managing movement and more time focused on learning, which will benefit every student at Holy Cross.

## CLASSROOM DOORS

At Holy Cross, we are committed to keeping our students safe while supporting their independence throughout the school day. To maintain a secure environment, external doors will now be locked during school hours to prevent unsupervised access from outside. Importantly, the specially designed handles on all external classroom **doors can be easily opened in one action from the inside**, ensuring students can exit safely at any time.

Internal classroom doors will continue to remain unlocked, allowing children to move freely and confidently between learning spaces and the toilets. Additionally, for ease of access, the main double doors to the administration building and the door opposite 6A in the senior learning area will remain unlocked, so students can drop off their school bags in the morning and move freely to the office and sick bay as needed. As a final step, staff will now also ensure that doors are locked when classrooms are unoccupied, helping to keep every part of our school safe and secure and preventing students from accessing unsupervised areas.