



29 April 2020

Good afternoon parents and carers,

Let me start by thanking you for your ongoing support amidst the uncertainty of the COVID 19 pandemic. I can appreciate that the ever-changing landscape of social distancing, working from home and transitioning back to school can be confusing.

Remote learning

As indicated last week, the first two weeks of Term 2 (beginning on Wednesday, 29 April) will continue the remote learning from home model that began last term. Supervision and care will be available at all Sydney Catholic School sites for those children unable to stay at home.

Please note many of our Year 12 students will be returning to school during this time.

Return to face-to-face teaching

Sydney Catholic Schools has been working with health authorities and the state and federal governments to plan our return to face-to-face teaching and learning.

From week three (Monday, 11 May), all our schools will begin to move back to regular face-to-face learning. The approach to return is being organised by each school in line with local requirements, adequate physical space and available staff. The model will vary between schools, to allow for local circumstances and needs.

Your school's plan

Each school will communicate with parents their approach to the return at the beginning of week two. During this time, we ask you to be conscious that some of our staff are part of the vulnerable people category. Therefore, your child may have a different teacher during the transition phase.

Health and Safety

Schools will minimise the number of non-essential adults on-site by developing clear pick-up and drop-off protocols and restricting access to the school site. This will help to protect our staff and ensure they are available to work with your children. We will also continue to restrict access to play equipment, bubblers and canteen facilities.

All our schools will continue to be hypervigilant with regards to personal hygiene and the cleanliness of the school site, particularly around high-traffic areas. We ask all parents to please keep their children at home if they are unwell. This will augment the consistent government and health advice that students are at very low risk of contracting COVID 19 at school.

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An optimistic future

It has been energising to see the many new ways of learning and engaging across our schools. So many parents have contacted us to share their stories of our wonderful school staff, who have supported their children through this time – it has been heartening to see our communities coming together, even when physically apart.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Farley', written in a cursive style.

Tony Farley
Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools