



St Clare's College

22 January 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians

We are looking forward to another exciting and rewarding school year in 2021. This letter provides you with some information regarding the start of year events, a COVID-19 update and a reminder about some compulsory uniform items for 2021.

TERM 1 EVENTS

There are a number of events taking place in the first few weeks of school for students in Years 7-12. Please take particular note of the events that are compulsory for students to attend:

Week	Date	Event
1	Friday 29 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First day for Year 7 students and the start of their Orientation Program Orientation for new students starting in Years 8-12 for 2021 (8:30 - 12:00pm - compulsory)
2	Monday 1 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First day for Years 8-12 Year 7 Orientation program continues
	Tuesday 2 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Orientation program continues
	Wednesday 3 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Belonging Day (compulsory)
	Thursday 4 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Opening Mass, Mary Immaculate Church Waverley (11:00am - compulsory)
	Friday 5 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Achievers Assembly (10:00am) - TBC
3	Monday 8 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Photo Day (full summer uniform)
	Wednesday 10 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 5 Curriculum Information Evening (6:00 - 6:45pm - compulsory) Stage 6 Curriculum Information Evening (7:00 - 7:45pm - compulsory) Delivery mode TBC closer to the the date
4	Wednesday 17 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ash Wednesday Mass, Mary Immaculate Church Waverley (11:00am - compulsory) Year 7 Information Evening (6:00 - 6:45pm - compulsory) Stage 4 Curriculum Information Evening (7:00 - 7:45pm - compulsory) Delivery mode TBC closer to the the date
	Friday 19 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Swimming Carnival (Botany Aquatic Centre - compulsory) Parents are not able to attend

PLEASE NOTE: For those events listed as compulsory it is an expectation that all students are in attendance. A medical certificate is required for any absence on these days.



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COVID-19 UPDATE

Across the break we have been monitoring the health advice regarding the emerging COVID situation in NSW and before school commences, we wanted to update you on some of the latest COVID-safe guidelines recently released by the NSW Government and what they mean for the start of Term 1.

The health and safety of all in our community is our paramount concern and so we will begin 2021 with some of last year's restrictions continuing to be in place for our school activities. For ease of references, these restrictions are summarised in a table at the end of this letter.

Although NSW Health have maintained restrictions around parents accessing the school sites to support the settling of Year 7 students into the new school environment, parents and carers can participate in Year 7 orientation activities. This means that parents/carers are able to walk their daughter into the College via the Church Street gates for the first Orientation Day and pick them up from the playground via Church Street providing physical distance is maintained. All parents entering school grounds on this day must sign in using the QR code provided.

Parents and carers of all other students are to continue to use the designated drop off areas, maintain social distancing, and not enter the school grounds unless it has been organised by the College such as for scheduled meetings with teachers.

Please remember that students are not to attend school if they are unwell, even if they only have the mildest of symptoms. Those who have been unwell, are required to return a negative COVID-19 test and be symptom-free before returning to school.

NSW Health keeps an [updated list of case locations and information](#) on their website and we encourage you to review frequently and follow any requirements they put in place. If your family is impacted by one of the listed venues please contact the school so that we can assist you.

We will continue to keep you updated on NSW government requirements around COVID-19 and any implications they may have on school staff, you or our students. We also want to assure you that we continue to ensure we abide by all NSW requirements including physical distancing for adults, hygiene measures and infection control.

Thank you for your patience and ongoing understanding as we continue to work through the evolving situation. We want to remind you that if you or your family are having difficulties please contact the College so we can support you.

COLLEGE UNIFORM AND GROOMING REMINDER

A reminder that there are some compulsory uniform items that are required and must be purchased ready for the start of the year:

- All tunics and skirts must be the appropriate length- at the knee
- St Clare's sports socks must be worn by all students with the PE uniform
- All students must have a College Excursion Bag. No handbags or other casual bags will be permitted at excursions or College Sport
- A St Clare's swimming costume is compulsory for all students in Years 7-10
- The College Sports Uniform is to be kept and worn by all senior students for compulsory Year 11 Sport and other compulsory events such as Picnic/Gratitude Day



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The following is a reminder of expectations for students as they return in relation to grooming:

- False eyelashes are not permitted
- No false nails or coloured nail polish are permitted
- Students are only permitted one piercing in the bottom lobe (discrete, clear earrings are permitted for other piercings)
- Students hair must be of *their* natural colour
- The College Uniform must be of an appropriate length

STUDENT DIARIES

A reminder that in response to the student survey and in the advent of the use of Compass we no longer supply a student diary. If students wish to have a physical diary they are asked to purchase a diary of their choice for the start of the school year. It is recommended that all year 7 students have a physical diary.

We thank you in advance for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing your daughters for the start of the 2021 school year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Kerrie McDiarmid
College Principal

Mr Chris Maoudis
Deputy Principal (Acting)



COVID SAFE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Area	Regulations
Distancing and Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are not required to practise physically distancing whilst at school. • Cleaning protocols are in place. • Reminders to students about personal hygiene, hand washing, cleaning shared items etc.
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students should be attending school unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence. • If students are unwell, they must not attend school, even with the mildest of symptoms. • Students must return a negative COVID-19 test, which must be provided to the school, and be symptom free prior to returning to school. • If a student develops flu-like symptoms whilst at school, they will be sent to the office and parents contacted to collect them and have a COVID-19 test.
School assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole school assemblies can continue however, parents and carers are not able to attend these events in school hours.
School masses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School masses in school hours cannot include any external visitors. • Masses/events in the church must adhere to the NSW Government's requirements for places of worship (capacity based on 4m2 with limit of 100 people)
Excursions, Camps and Retreats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field trips, excursions and camps can now proceed (except to aged care facilities). • NOTE Students must wear a mask on public and chartered transport for sport and excursions.
Parents on site	<p>During school hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are allowed on site for essential activities only during school hours. This includes pre-organised meetings with teachers, or visiting the uniform shop. • Parents are asked to use the QR Code system provided by NSW Government to check-in for the uniform shop and sign in using Compass if they have a scheduled meeting. • No attendance at sporting or other activities in school hours. <p>After school hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All meetings are limited to 30 participants onsite and 1 hour duration • Attendance in line with 1.5 distancing between non-household members and capacity based on 4m2
Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and students are not required to wear a face mask while at school. • Anyone who wishes to wear their own face mask in schools can do so. • Students over 12 must comply with the Public Health (COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings) Order 2021 when travelling to and from school and during transport for school excursions/sport etc.