



## PARENT BRIEFING #9

### Perth and Peel Region COVID-19 Lockdown



CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Wednesday 28 April 2021

Dear parents and caregivers,

As you will be aware, Premier Mark McGowan announced that the lockdown of the Perth and Peel region ended at midnight on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April after Western Australia recorded no new community cases of COVID-19.

While Perth and Peel residents are free to leave their homes and return to work and schools, the interim restrictions announced on Monday will remain in place until 12.01am on Saturday 1 May 2021, including the mandatory wearing of face masks for adults.

As was the case when we transitioned from lockdown earlier this year, our school has a COVID-19 response plan that focuses on the continuation of teaching and learning in changing circumstances. Central to this is a commitment to the safety and pastoral care of all students and staff.

To assist in your planning for the coming days and acknowledging the possibility that some restrictions may remain in place beyond this week, it is important that all in our community are aware of the operating guidelines in place for schools in the Perth metropolitan area and the Peel region.

- Years 7 to 12 students are required to wear masks while they are at school. This applies to classrooms, all teaching areas and libraries, staffrooms, in playgrounds and outdoors. It also includes travelling on public transport to and from school. Masks should also be worn in private vehicles if there is more than one passenger over the age of 12 years from different households.
- Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 are not required to wear a mask, but their teachers and support staff must wear masks.
- Students may be exempt from wearing a mask at school under the following circumstances:
  - the student has a physical, developmental or mental illness, injury, condition or disability which makes wearing a face covering unsuitable;
  - when communicating with another person who is deaf or hard of hearing, where visibility of the mouth is essential for communication;
  - when engaged in strenuous or vigorous exercise;
  - when consuming food, drink or medicine, provided that they are seated at the time.

#### **Visitors to Liwara**

Parents and caregivers are able to come onto school grounds but must adhere to the COVID-safe directions, as follows:

- wear a mask at all times;
- observe physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where practicable; and
- follow good hand and respiratory hygiene practices.

I acknowledge the distress that some students may be experiencing as we continue to encounter the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presents. I remind you of our commitment to your child's wellbeing at school and encourage you to contact me to discuss concerns that may arise.

I also encourage you to continue monitoring the Department of Health website [HealthyWA](https://www.health.wa.gov.au/) as well as the COVID-19 updates on [CEWA's website](https://www.cewa.edu.au/).

Yours sincerely

Andrea Millar