



ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

26 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In line with Premier Mark McGowan's latest announcement regarding new learning arrangements in Western Australian government schools, parents with children in all Catholic schools in Western Australia should **keep their children at home from the close of school tomorrow (Friday 27 March)**, if at all possible. This decision has been made to prioritise the health and wellbeing of the Western Australian community and is based on the best national medical advice.

In line with our planning, St Bernard's will move to remote delivery of the curriculum in all school years from Monday 30 March. All families will be receiving information from teachers in the next few days about how students can access their learning remotely. At this time, more than ever, we will be relying on parents to be partners in their children's education. Please see my *Principal's News* in the school newsletter tomorrow for more information.

I ask for parents to be patient as our teachers work in this space for the first time and work through any problems or difficulties that may arise proactively. I have asked teachers to be in regular contact with students during this period of remote delivery and I ask that you facilitate this in every possible way. We are keen to work together at this time to ensure the disruption to our students' education is kept to a minimum.

Students attending school

In line with the Premier's announcement schools will remain open to ensure that remote learning takes place, as well as to supervise children of parents currently working in health or essential services. Parents who are currently involved in health or essential services who require their child to attend school to be supervised in their remote learning will need to advise their school Principal.

Parents who wish their child/children to attend St Bernard's from Monday 30 March will need to provide a letter, or send an email to me, stating why and which days their child/children will be attending. Could I ask that that letter is provided by the close of school tomorrow, Friday March 27th at 3.30pm. **Parents will not be required to contact us if their child is remaining at home from Monday 30 March.**

School term changes

The Premier has further announced that Term 1 for students will now conclude on Friday, 3 April. However, staff will remain at school until Thursday 9 April to plan for remote delivery of learning and to supervise the children of parents currently working in health or essential services. We will update families further on the plan for this final week over the course of next week

This is a difficult time for all in Western Australia and it is normal that you and your children may be feeling anxious or worried. Catholic Education Western Australia – and all of us here at St Bernard's - remain focused on the care and wellbeing of all our students, staff and families and, as a Catholic community, I encourage you to pray for the health of all in our communities, especially those who are more vulnerable.

Please take care of yourselves and your families. God bless.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sharon Marino
Principal

11 Katanning Road, Kojonup WA 6395
Telephone: (08) 9831 3500
Email: admin@stbernards.wa.edu.au
Web: stbernards.wa.edu.au/