

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION ARCHDIOECSE OF CANBERRA & GOULBURN
NEW RESTRICTIONS FOR NSW CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

9 November 2020

as advised by NSW Health

Assemblies/School events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole of school assemblies can recommence from 12 November. Where possible, students should remain within their relevant cohort to limit the mixing of students between cohort groups. Parents and carers are not permitted to attend school assemblies. • End of year school performances, productions, plays, concerts, speech nights and award presentations can proceed subject to COVID requirements. When conducting such events, schools must comply with the 4 square metre rule for all people participating. Schools will need to invite guests based on the total number of people (this includes staff, students, parents and carers and visitors) who are able to be accommodated under the 4 square metre rule. • Schools may organise end of year events outdoor events involving community participation (i.e. parents) which are limited to 30 people such as barbeques and picnics with a class without requiring a COVID Plan. • Schools may conduct an end of year event for staff and students such as at a park in accordance with COVID requirements and numbers must not exceed 100 people at these events. Events must be limited to staff from within the local school network and must be held outside of school hours. • Carols by Candlelight events remain on hold.
COVID-19 Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and staff with flu-like symptoms must not attend school or be sent home and tested for COVID-19. • Where COVID-19 testing has occurred due to flu-like symptoms, and not due to close contact with a positive COVID-19 case, the person being tested must self-isolate until they receive a negative result. If the result is positive, they are required to self-isolate for 14 days. Family members are not required to self-isolate until the test result is received - although we encourage them to do so. • The school must sight a negative test result before staff/students return to school. • Staff/students must be symptom-free before returning to school. • Schools must keep a record of negative staff/student's tests in a central file.
Education Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day time excursions are permitted subject to appropriate risk assessments and the completion of a COVID-19 Safe Plan. • Schools can conduct field trips, excursions and overnight activities within NSW and in the ACT and participation in the Duke of Edinburgh can re-commence, not including, visits to remote communities. • Schools hosting an overnight event such as a camp on the school site must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place.
Excursions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day time excursions are permitted within the local area only, subject to appropriate risk assessments. • Overnight and interstate excursions and camps can resume (ACT/NSW only) where they are a necessary part of a student's education program (for example, college outdoor education programs). • Schools must adhere to the specific COVID-19 rules within the state/territory they are travelling and must only conduct the excursion if it is safe to do so at the time given the current COVID-19 status in the area being travelled to. • All excursions and accommodation must have a COVID-Safe plan. • Where excursions are conducted the mixing of any other school group or members of the public should be minimized. • No overseas excursions permitted.
Graduations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 12 Formals or graduation ceremonies are now permitted subject to meeting NSW Health requirements. • Schools may hold a Year 6 assembly to recognise the completion of primary school for Stage 3 Students (Year 5 and 6) subject to meeting NSW Health requirements. • COVID-19 Safety plans are required to be prepared for these events.

School, Inter-School and Sporting Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interschool sporting activities permitted outside local areas and communities. • Must have a COVID-Safe Plan and no spectators permitted. • Avoid mixing students when not participating in activities. • 5 metres social distancing required for solo singers • No more than 5 people permitted to sing in choirs, with 5 metres distance required for audiences. Choir members must not face each other and required to stand 1.5 metres apart. • The use of wind instruments requires 3 metres social distancing • Group repetition, chanting recitation: Pre and Primary schools only, preferably outside. • Zone carnivals (swimming, cross country, athletics), round robins and gala days involving more than one school and selection trials for representative pathway events can also recommence. • External providers can deliver sport and physical activity programs provided they have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. • No parents or other spectators are permitted to attend activities held on school sites during the school day.
Kinder and Year 7 Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten Orientation can be commenced from 1 November subject to meeting NSW Health requirements. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parents only being permitted to remain on the school premises for 10 minutes. • Year 7 orientation can proceed from 12 November following the conclusion of the HSC, subject to, meeting NSW Health requirements. • COVID Safe practices for Year 7 transitions and Kindergarten Orientation requires parent/carer information sessions to have social distancing, parent/carer numbers to be at a safe level, where catering meeting COVID requirements and ensuring parents/carer do not congregate when dropping, picking up students and attending information sessions.
P&F Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 12 November, P&F meetings may occur on the school site with the Leadership Team and invited guests. These meetings must occur outside of school hours. The number of parents and external visitors meeting onsite is limited to ensure compliance with the 4 square metre rule to a maximum of 20 people. Physical distancing and hygiene measures must be adhered to at all times. All attendees must sign the visitor acknowledgement form. • P&F or other community social events or functions, fetes and barbecues are not permitted. • Community use of facilities can be conducted subject to meeting COVID requirements
Playgroups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playgroups can recommence.
Staff Gatherings/ Professional Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 12 November, professional learning for staff can proceed following relevant guidelines and NSW Health requirements for COVID-safe professional learning activities. This can include staff from the same school and the local school network. • End of Term 4 staff development days can proceed with a maximum of 100 staff members in attendance. • Staff professional learning outside of staff development days should not be conducted face-to-face unless it is absolutely necessary. Where professional learning activities are conducted face-to-face, they must be limited to a maximum of 30 people from the same school or local network and a COVID Safety Plan is required where there is in excess of 20 persons. • Staff gatherings to celebrate the end of the school year can proceed after 12 Nov and are required to follow relevant guidelines and NSW Health requirements and must not exceed 100 persons. • If school staff are together on the Staff Development Days at the end of the term, they may include a staff end of year event but must have COVID-19 Safety Plan
Singing/ Instruments/ Dancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing is permitted for solo and small choir groups subject to certain restrictions. • 5 metres social distancing required for solo singers. • No more than 5 people permitted to sing in choirs, with 5 metres distance required for audiences. Choir members must not face each other and required to stand 1.5 metres apart. • The use of wind instruments requires 3 metres social distancing • Group repetition, chanting recitation: Pre and Primary Schools only, preferably outside.

Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No parents or carers on site unless the meeting is considered essential and should be by exception such as to attend the uniform shop.• Parent and carer attendance not permitted at assemblies and other school events.• Parent and carer volunteers not permitted – (note: reading groups, canteen, kitchen garden and uniform shop volunteers are permitted)• School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults not permitted. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school barbecues, large parent information evenings, and large on-site cultural events.• All visitors must accept terms and conditions (social distancing, enhanced hygiene protocols etc.) prior to entering the school.• Practical teachers, work experience students and external providers of educational services are permitted to attend schools.
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All students should be either:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ at school;○ at home because they are currently unwell;○ at home due to self-isolation requirements;○ at home because they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition (or in limited cases where a family member has an ongoing medical condition).