

St Anthony's School
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update 25th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for continuing to notify the office and your child's classroom teacher if your child is learning from home. We support parents and carers to make informed decisions about whether they wish to send their children to school or not in these unprecedented times. From tomorrow, the program sent home will be the same as the program that will be running in classrooms. Please communicate with your child's classroom teachers if you have any queries regarding the set work.

Staff are doing an amazing job in this context catering for students at school, students at home and also preparing blocks of work should we be directed to close the school as a result of the current situation. To enable this to happen to a high standard, structures have been put in place so that one of your child's year level teachers will be face to face in the classroom and the other will be able to prepare work and communicate with families.

We understand that the impact of the Coronavirus goes beyond medical concerns and that there are significant financial implications which may arise for families. Please see a combined message from the Executive Director of Catholic Education Western Australia and St Anthony's School below.

St Anthony's School, Wanneroo

Financial Implications as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

25 March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We know that we are living through an unprecedented time in our history and that the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 virus has been significant. Some parents in our school have lost their jobs and many families are facing significant financial stress. We want to assure you of a very important and simple message: **the ongoing enrolment of every child at St Anthony's School is guaranteed irrespective of a family's financial situation.**

Catholic Education's position is very clear on the enrolment of children in all Catholic schools. No parent who wishes their child to receive a Catholic Education would be denied the opportunity to do so because of financial circumstances.

If you are worried about your financial situation and your capacity to pay school fees, the following options are **immediately** available to you:

- The Centrelink Health Care Card Discount Scheme provides an **automatic fee concession** to the holders of eligible means-tested family concession cards. This discount applies to all year levels from Kindergarten to Year 12. **Additional financial considerations are also available** depending on each family's circumstance.
- For parents who do not qualify for the Health Care Card discount but who are experiencing financial difficulties, arrangements can be made to provide **immediate support** to assist you with tuition costs.

So that we can assist, please make contact with the school office so that we can put in place financial support arrangements. Any arrangements which are made between parents and our school will remain **confidential**.

In line with the Prime Minister's announcement, education in our Catholic schools will continue to be provided at this time. As parents, you have a choice to keep your child at home or send him or her to our physical school site. We will continue, whether your child is at school, or at home, to provide rich and engaging learning activities and strong pastoral support.

Yours sincerely



Dr Debra Sayce
Executive Director



Mark Marando
Principal