

St Anthony's School, Wanneroo
Coronavirus (COVID-19) update 23 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to parents and carers for continuing to maintain calm and for keeping us informed of your current family situation.

In line with the latest advice from Commonwealth and WA governments, St Anthony's School is required to remain open. State and territory Premiers and Chief Ministers have committed to the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee advice that says it is safe to keep schools open.

As stated by the Prime Minister and the WA Minister for Education, parents may choose to keep their children at home during this unprecedented time.

We are working hard to ensure our teaching and learning continuity plan supports students to engage in remote learning should our school be required to close. Those students who are not attending school because parents have chosen not to send them will be able to engage with their learning by emailing their child's classroom teacher to access work packages. Please also inform the office of this via email.

In the event of a school closure, classroom and specialist teachers will provide a learning pack for each year level containing 10 days of work covering all learning areas. This work will be uploaded to a purpose-built website for parents and carers to access and work through with the students at home. Thank you to staff who have been amazing in setting up this work, still teaching face to face and also providing activities to students who have chosen to self-isolate due to having vulnerable conditions or family members.

Please be assured that while the school remains open, social distancing will be encouraged and cleaning processes will continue to be completed to the highest possible standards.

St Anthony's School will continue to restrict excursions and incursions and before after school events and activities will also be cancelled. The library will close including book borrowing. To reduce the amount of people entering the classrooms, parents and carers are encouraged to drop children at the gate or classroom door.

Please ensure that if you are unwell you do not attend the school and if your child is feeling unwell in any way, please keep them at home.

Students and families may feel worried and anxious at this time and this is normal. Please reassure your child and let them know that these actions are proactive to prevent transmission and so that we can be prepared. Please continue to speak with your child about appropriate hygiene measures such as thorough hand washing, coughing and sneezing into a tissue or elbow, disposing of tissues appropriately and avoiding contact with others if you are not feeling well. In the current climate, children may be seeing extreme behaviours between adults, please continue to model the school values in your discussions with your child.

Everyone in the community has a part to play in helping control the spread of the Coronavirus. We will continue to follow the latest advice of the Department of Health. I will keep you informed about any changes for our school as updates become available.

Thank you for your support at this time, and we encourage you to keep everyone in your prayers.

Yours sincerely

Mark Marando
Principal