



Tuesday, 8 February 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The Minister for Education and Training, the Honourable Sue Ellery, and the Minister for Child Protection and Community Services, the Honourable Simone McGurk, yesterday afternoon announced the new high caseloads protocols specifically for school and childcare settings. These updated protocols are in response to the increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases in the Western Australian community. These new protocols take effect from today, Tuesday 8 February 2022. Key points from this announcement include;

Additional measures in place to keep schools and childcare settings operating safely in a high caseload environment;

- New testing and isolation protocols beginning today, reducing isolation to seven days;
- New health measures to reduce movement and exposure risks;
- Indoor events prohibited; and
- New arrangements for contact and interactions between staff and Parents or Caregivers.

### **SCHOOL EVENTS**

Schools are required to undertake measures to minimise the risk of COVID-19 entering or being transmitted on school grounds. These steps include;

- Prohibiting indoor face-to-face events;
- Cancelling or postponing school camps and trips; and
- Where practicable, limiting contact between different Year groups.

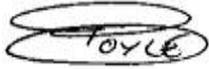
### **PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

- Parents or Caregivers will be permitted on school sites for drop-off and pick-up only;
- Parents or Caregivers should only attend the office in the event of a significant pastoral or welfare issue related to their child; wherever possible interactions by staff with Parents or Caregivers should take place over the phone or via email/online;
- Gatherings of Parents or Caregivers on school sites should be avoided; and
- Parent-teacher interviews should occur online or over the phone.

Be assured, staff are doing what they do best and creatively adjusting the teaching and learning programs to maintain high standards in education regardless of the location. Additionally, options are being explored to enable parents the opportunity to meet and touch base with their child's teacher in an online capacity.

I will continue to keep you informed of any necessary changes at St Francis Xavier as we become aware. As always, St Francis Xavier is undertaking all necessary measures to ensure the safety of our students, staff and the wider community.

I thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doyle", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval border.

Ben Doyle  
Not a fan of COVID