



Phase 4 School Operations Guidelines

ADVICE FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Effective 29 June 2020

In line with the latest State Government and Department of Health advice, current Term 2 arrangements have been reviewed and the following will apply from Monday 29 June 2020:



Student attendance

It is now compulsory for all students to attend school unless they are unwell, have a medical referral to learn from home or live with a family member who is medically vulnerable.

Students with a medical condition

Students may continue to learn from home if they are immune-compromised or are otherwise considered at-risk medically.

- Parents who plan to keep their child home to continue learning remotely are to seek medical advice and will be required to provide medical evidence to the school. Students approved to learn from home will continue to be supported in their learning.
- Where a student's pre-existing medical condition is already known to the school, no medical evidence is required.

If a child is unwell

Students who are unwell should stay at home. Parents are asked to seek medical advice if their child exhibits symptoms of COVID-19. Normal processes for advising the school of a child's absence will apply.

Student with medically vulnerable family members

Students may continue to learn from home if a member of their immediate family is immune-compromised or medically vulnerable.

- Parents who plan to keep their child home to continue learning remotely are asked to contact the school Principal and provide medical evidence to support their request.



School facilities

School canteen

School canteens can continue to provide takeaway service and can now provide a full dine-in service. Canteens need to ensure they are maintaining physical distancing requirements of one person per 2m².

School library

Library access should be managed to ensure supervisors/staff maintain physical distancing of one person per 2m² and good hygiene practices are in place.

Swimming pool

Good hygiene practices and physical distancing of one person per 2m² apply.

Uniform shop

Uniform shops may now open to parents and caregivers where the school can assure adherence to physical distancing requirements of 2m², enhanced cleaning of used areas and minimise contact with the broader school population.

Where a school operates a uniform shop, increased cleaning and hygiene practices must be put in place to ensure that the uniform shop meets the required AHPPC guidelines.



School activities

Incursions

Supervisors/staff are to maintain physical distancing of one person per 2m².

Interschool activities

All interschool activities can occur. Adult visitors should maintain physical distancing of one person per 2m². Encourage good hygiene practices including hand washing before and after activities.

School sport

Contact sport and training is now permitted. Equipment may be shared, however schools should ensure regular cleaning of equipment is undertaken and encourage good hygiene practices including handwashing before and after sport.

Excursions

Supervisors/staff are to maintain physical distancing of one person per 2m².

Camps

Schools should follow CEWA excursion policies, developing mitigations that lower the risk of transmission and promote good health, hygiene and physical distancing within the camp facility. Schools must also ensure camp providers comply with WA COVID-19 Health guidelines.

Work Placements

Work placements may recommence. Schools should conduct work placement risk assessments and ensure employers comply with WA COVID-19 Health guidelines.

Assemblies and school community events

Adult visitors and staff should maintain physical distancing of one person per 2m².

Choir

Good hygiene practices including hand washing before and after lessons should apply. Supervisors/staff should maintain physical distancing of one person per 2m².



School visitors

School meetings

Good hygiene practices and physical distancing of one adult per 2m² applies to all meetings. Regular cleaning of facilities used for meetings is required.

Parent and caregiver meetings

Pre arranged parent/caregiver meetings can proceed, adhering to physical distancing and hygiene protocols.

Parent and caregiver access

Parents are able to enter school grounds to drop off and pick up their children and to attend scheduled meetings with staff. Parents should enter classrooms with the approval of the principal and at the invitation of the teacher.

School visitors

All visitors with a lawful purpose are allowed onto the school grounds. Physical distancing with a 2m² rule per adult and good hygiene practices should apply. All official visitors as per CEWA guidelines, are required to sign in.

Use of school facilities

Regular cleaning of all facilities used for third-party arrangements is required. Good hygiene practices and physical distancing of one adult per 2m² apply to all activities.



Health and hygiene

Arrangements for Term 3 continue with regard to safety, to reduce direct contact, enhance personal hygiene practices, and strengthen cleaning regimes in schools.

Cleaning

Cleaning guidelines are based on, and continuously reviewed in line with, advice from the Department of Health.

Maximising the use of physical space

Students and staff should consider the following guidelines to reduce contact:

- Avoid direct physical contact (handshakes, hugs, etc.).
- Unwell staff or students to remain at home.

Physical distancing of one person per 2m² is still a requirement for all adults.

Personal hygiene:

- Schools are to ensure arrangements are in place for regular and thorough hand-washing for students and staff.
- Posters and information regarding handwashing and cough-sneeze hygiene should be displayed in schools.



Remaining prepared

Catholic schools will continue to review and respond to cleaning and hygiene protocols in line with advice from the Department of Health.

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, any temporary school closure will be advised by the Department of Health and the school will enact its Six Step Response Plan in the event of a confirmed case.

When making decisions on applying this guidance the following should be considered:

- The AHPPC definition of vulnerable populations is based on age and [underlying medical conditions](#) that are limited and considered relatively serious.
- The AHPPC advises that there is a relatively low risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools amongst children.