

11 May 2022



Our Lady of Mercy College

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our school has now received the WA Government supply of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs).

I am writing to advise you of the procedures by which these RATs will be distributed to you for use by your child if they become symptomatic or if they are close household contacts.

Please be mindful that while these RATs are safe for use by children, they should only be administered under the supervision of an appropriate adult.

These free RATs will support our students to continue to attend school for face-to-face learning and will minimise disruption to their schooling. You will be able to test your child at home if they are feeling unwell.

You can also use these RATs if your child is a close contact to enable them to test daily and continue to attend school, as long as they receive a negative result, remain asymptomatic, and wear a mask if they are in Year 7 and above. I attach a letter from WA Health which explains how to use the RATs located [here](#).

The distribution process will commence as soon as possible and should be completed by Friday, 20 May 2022. This will occur in Pastoral Care Group classes where each student will be provided with 10 RATs to take home with the following advice:

1. Take RATs home and hand to parents/caregivers
2. Do not open the RATs
3. RATs are to be administered under the supervision of adults.

If your child becomes symptomatic, they should stay home and be tested for COVID-19. You should notify the school if your child tests positive for COVID-19. Please refer to healthywa.wa.gov.au for information on close contact definition, testing and isolation requirements.

Any positive COVID-19 result (PCR & RAT) should be reported on the school's [COVID-19 Self-Reporting Portal](#) and also be reported on the [WA Health RAT Register](#), as is required by the WA Government.

Thank you for your continued efforts in keeping our school COVID-19 safe.

Regards,

Rob Crothers
Principal

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