

27 April 2022



## Our Lady of Mercy College

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you had a blessed Easter with your family and are refreshed and ready for all Term 2 has in store for us.

The Premier announced on 13 April 2022 that the Western Australian close contact definition will now align with the National Cabinet's definition.

This means that a close contact is now defined as:

- a family or household member of a person with COVID-19 who has had contact with them during their infectious period;
- someone who has had close interaction with a person with COVID-19 during their infectious period, where they spent more than 4 hours with them in a single day, in a residential setting, including a boarding facility, where masks have not been worn; or
- someone who is directed by WA Health that they are a close contact.

Schools are no longer considered close contact venues. A child who attends class with a peer who later tests positive to COVID-19 will no longer be identified as a close contact.

Any child who becomes symptomatic should stay home and be tested for COVID-19. Please continue to refer to [healthywa.wa.gov.au](https://healthywa.wa.gov.au) for information on close contact definitions, testing and isolation requirements.

Additionally, 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.

The easing of restrictions has meant some of our school activities can resume this term, including school camps. Additionally, the Health Minister has announced changes to the requirements for mask wearing. The College will receive details of these changes and any relevant implications in the very near future.

The Director of Catholic Education, Dr Debra Sayce recommends that schools continue to adhere to current guidelines for the remainder of this week with the new Operating Guidelines coming into effect in CEWA schools from Monday, 2 May 2022.

We will provide more information on the requirements and additional COVID-19 considerations for each activity as they arise on the school calendar.

We are looking forward to a vibrant and exciting Term 2.

Regards,

**Rob Crothers**  
**Principal**

Embracing Life | Nurturing Faith | Inspiring Learning

100 Leisure Drive, PO Box 220, Australind WA 6233, P (08) 9720 3300  
[admin@olmca.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@olmca.wa.edu.au) | [www.olmca.wa.edu.au](http://www.olmca.wa.edu.au)

