

30/04/2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday evening, Premier Mark McGowan announced that COVID-19 restrictions in the Perth metropolitan area and Peel region will be eased from 12.01am Saturday 1 May. Modified restrictions will remain in place until 12.01am on Saturday 8 May 2021.

The easing of restrictions is very positive news for Orana and will mean that many of our planned activities will be able to resume with minimal disruption and some modified restrictions. Below is an outline of the arrangements and restrictions as that apply to our school.

Masks

Parents, caregivers, staff and visitors must wear a mask and adhere to COVID-safe guidelines while they are **indoors** on a school site. If parents, caregivers, staff and visitors are outdoors on a school site, masks must be worn if physical distancing is not possible. There is no requirement for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 to wear a mask; however, they may choose to if they wish.

Scheduled School Events

The following will recommence:

- Parent help
- Extra-curricular activities
- School banking
- Junior and Senior Assemblies

Week 3 events below will go ahead with the modified restrictions in place.

- 4th May - Pre-Primary AQWA Excursion
- 4th May - Year Six Camp Supervisor Meeting 5.30pm
- 5th May - Kindy Blue Mother's Day Event Hall 9.20am
- 5th May - Life Education Presentation (Year 6)
- 6th May - Kindy White Mother's Day Event Hall 9.20am
- 6th May - P & F Mother's Day Stall
- 7th May - Icy poles at lunch time
- 7th May - Mother's Day Tea 7.30am
- 8th May - Junior Community Mass 6.30pm

To uphold current government and CEWA guidelines, parents and carers must follow the protocols below to safely accommodate our community. Whilst at school all adults must:

- Wear a mask when indoors or in an outdoor area where physical distancing is not possible (e.g. verandas at pick up or drop off).
- Sign in using the SafeWA App if entering a building, waiting on verandas or in the quadrangle.
- Apply hand sanitiser as you enter a building.
- Adhere to the 1.5m physical distancing rule.

Pick up and Drop off

The following information about school drop-off and pick-up applies from the week commencing Monday 3rd May.

- Parents and carers entering school grounds can utilise the current drop off and collection points or may come into the school grounds to drop off and collect their children. We encourage all parents/carers to use their designated drive through area or back gate for both drop off and pick up from 8.30am and 3.10pm respectively. If you feel you need to walk your child to their classroom, one parent/carer may drop them to their classroom door. **Adults standing under verandas or in the quadrangle must sign in on the SafeWA app.**
- Physical distancing must be adhered to, so please consider this particularly when in high traffic areas, such as outside classroom doors and at peak times such as pick up and drop off.
- Parents and carers from **Pre-Kindy to Year 1** are welcome to attend classrooms in limited numbers if you feel you need to. Drop off at the classroom door is preferred and if necessary, staggered classroom access is restricted to **one parent/carer per child**. A maximum of **5 adults including Orana staff members** are permitted into a classroom at any one time. **Adults entering rooms or standing under verandas or in the quadrangle must sign in on the SafeWA app.**
- Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classrooms will be accessible from 8:45am – 9:30am to allow more time for adhering to physical distancing. Official Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten start time is 9:00am and will be in place from Week 4 if the COVID situation continues to improve.
- Year 1 classrooms will be accessible from 8:30am – 9:00am to allow more time for adhering to physical distancing.
- Please be mindful of other parents/carers; time limits may apply at peak times.

The following protocols will continue to ensure the safety of our students, parents and carers.

Water Bottles

Students are required to bring a water bottle as the water fountain bubblers are not in use. Students will be able to fill up their water bottles during the day as required.

Hygiene

Staff will continue to remind your children to wash and/or sanitise their hands regularly, especially when entering and exiting their classroom; after going to the bathroom and before eating. Please also encourage your children to wash their hands when leaving and returning home. There are supplies of sanitiser around the school and good hand hygiene is encouraged.

Sickness

If your child is unwell, for their health and everyone's safety, please do not send them to school and seek medical advice. Please also keep your child home if they or a close contact are awaiting a COVID test result. Normal processes for advising the school of a child's absence will apply.

Cleaning

Heightened cleaning procedures will continue, including regular cleaning of student desks.

Assemblies

Junior and Senior assemblies will continue to take place in the school hall. Sign-in processes, hygiene requirements and the 1.5m physical distancing rule will apply to assemblies.

Celebrating Student Birthdays

Birthdays are acknowledged at assemblies and in classrooms. It is not necessary for your child to bring in food items to share for their birthday. If you choose to send something in, please ensure items are individually wrapped and are not homemade, considering healthy eating guidelines. These will be handed out at the end of the school day.

I appreciate that parents and students will have many questions about the restricted arrangements and assure you that I will continue to provide information about the requirements as soon as it becomes available.

Information about the Government's announcement is available on the wa.gov.au site. The latest health information is available through [WA Health Department](#).

Your child's health and well-being remain our first priority. We will continue to focus on providing a calm and safe environment. Please don't hesitate to contact the school office if you have any queries. The School's Leadership Team will continue to monitor the situation closely and will be in contact with parents and carers if any changes need to be made.

I am grateful to all in our Orana community – students, parents, carers and staff – for your support in ensuring our school remains a safe environment for all, especially considering the current disruptions to school life. We are indeed blessed that the measures taken have proven so successful and that students in WA are able to engage in their learning with minimal disruption.

I ask that you keep in your prayers communities around the world who continue to experience extreme hardship and suffering in this time.

Take care and God bless.

Dee Johnston

Principal
Orana Catholic Primary School