



## **Emmaus Catholic Parish Primary School Sydenham**

Emmaus Catholic Parish Primary School has a commitment to the care, safety and wellbeing of children.

Dear Parents and Careers,

I really hope you and your families are staying well during this time. It was a bitterly cold weekend but it encouraged us to stay indoors limiting the spread of the virus.

As I write this letter the numbers of people suffering with COVID 19 are coming down, so what we are doing as a community and as a state is working.

Since the 5th August all Victorian Catholic schools have transitioned to remote and flexible learning. **This will continue for the remainder of this term.**

**Children at Emmaus Catholic Primary School will remain at home this term and flexible remote learning will continue.**

At this stage I have no further news on when we will return in term 4. As soon as I know this I will communicate this with you. As I have explained before I often find out from the government briefings on the television as you do and then I am required to wait on directions from CECV. I'm sure we will all be glued to the TV on Sunday, 13th September to find out our next steps.

Onsite supervision continues to be available at all schools in **limited circumstances** as outlined below.

Onsite supervision will be available for students in the following categories, based on **revised criteria**:

- children whose parents are permitted workers who cannot work from home and where no other arrangements can be made
  - where there are two parents/carers, both must be permitted workers, working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for onsite provision (permits of both parents need to be sent to the school)
  - for single parents/carers, the permitted worker must be working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for onsite provision
- vulnerable children including:
  - children in out-of-home care
  - children deemed vulnerable by a government agency, funded family or family violence service, and assessed as requiring education and care outside the family home
  - children identified by the school as vulnerable (including via referral from a family violence agency, homelessness or youth justice service, or mental health or other health service)
  - children with a disability where the family is experiencing severe stress

We ask that children who are unwell stay home.

### **Masks**

In line with advice from the Chief Health Officer all school staff will be required to wear a face mask. They are not required to wear face coverings while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can. Children under the age of 12 are not required to wear a mask. Parents and carers are required to wear a mask when they drop off and pick up their children at the gate.

### **2021**

It's that time of the year when we need to consider 2021. If your family is planning on moving on from Emmaus could you please let us know via email.

[secretary@emsydenham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:secretary@emsydenham.catholic.edu.au) We need to start working out classes and teachers. We will always hold your position for you until you are ready to move on but it helps if we know how many children we have.

### **Sacraments**

At this stage we are still unable to gather in large groups as directed by the State Government. Therefore, we are unable to make any plans to celebrate Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. As soon as we know anything we will communicate this with families.

There is no doubt these are terribly trying times but we need to keep celebrating and being grateful for the 'silver linings' that continue to surface. Stay safe and well. These times will end and we will have the joy of each other again.

Take care,

Jackie

We thank You, O Lord, for all the good things in the world. Save us from focusing on troubles and forgetting our blessings, give us the strength of spirit to trust in the promises of God, inspire us to be workers in Your Kingdom who serve others, and remake us in Your image. In you we grow. Amen      Matthew 16:13-20