



Carey
Baptist
College

Attempt the Extraordinary

Monday 15 May 2020

Dear Secondary Parents and Guardians,

Western Australian schools have now been open for students since the commencement of Term Two and we remain encouraged by the way our College community, especially parents and students, are caring for their health and attending school in a responsible manner. I am particularly pleased that the overall attendance rate is now over 94%.

I continue to watch the daily WA Department of Health reports, confirming remarkably low local Covid-19 infection rates. As I write this, Western Australia has recorded over 56,000 negative tests with only 7 remaining active cases, and no current hospitalisations.

Recently, the Premier has announced further decisions about the easing of restrictions in our state as part of a phased approach in the management of the pandemic.

The College supports the State Government's recommendation that all students should be back in the classroom by Monday 18 May. However, if your child is vulnerable due to ongoing health concerns or if you have a vulnerable family member living in your home, then we would recommend seeking advice from your medical practitioner as to whether returning to school remains the best option for your family. If remaining at home is necessary for health reasons, the College will continue to support online learning via SEQTA for affected students as well as providing regular personal contact from pastoral care staff. From Monday 18 May live streaming and session by session online roll-taking will cease. Please remember to inform Student Absentees if your child will continue to learn from home by emailing: absentees@carey.wa.edu.au or by SMS: 0428 031 096.

The following specific changes will commence on Monday 18 May (Week 4):

- The College Library will be open but student borrowing is limited to one book;
- The College Uniform shop will be operating extended opening hours on Wednesday 20 May 3:00pm-6:30pm. No appointment is necessary and social distancing measures will apply.
- All Secondary students are expected to wear their formal winter uniform but are permitted to wear Sports uniform if required as this will be a transition week;
- From Monday 25 May (Week 5), all Secondary students must be in full winter uniform. If students are unable to obtain winter uniform items by Week 5 they may request a Uniform Pass from their Year Manager;
- Regular Physical Education classes and Cheer programs will recommence in a managed format and access to change rooms will also be managed;
- Term Two Assemblies, Camps and Excursions remain suspended pending further developments;
- As per government restrictions, parents and guardians are discouraged from non-essential movement on school grounds.

We need to remain diligent during this time and I encourage you to please make sure you keep your child home if they are unwell. If your child has a fever, cough or cold symptoms, current medical advice remains that you should have them tested for Covid-19.

Whilst we remain optimistic that the balance of the year will return to a more traditional educational program, we are mindful that a second wave of infections is a very real possibility and that we may return to more restricted programs. If this was to occur, be assured that we are preparing now to ensure that your son or daughter's education needs are supported to the best of our abilities.

Thank you again for your ongoing support, prayer and encouragement.

Yours sincerely

Mr Brenden Gifford

Principal – Secondary School