



St. Joseph's International Catholic College

A Catholic Agency Permitted School

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NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS & GUARDIANS

#03/21 - 16th April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers/Students and Staff

In line with the National Department of Education Circular Instruction No. 11 of 2021 on resumption of normal classes in the National Education System including Permitted schools, we will resume school next week, Monday 19 April 2021 for Term 2 this year.

All our teachers have planned their Week 1, Term 2 lessons and are ready for our students when classes resume next Monday, 19 April 2021.

At school we will continue to social distance, require face covering, take temperatures daily, use increased disinfecting practices, and promote frequent hand washing/hand sanitizer as outlined on the next pages. Please take time to read our REMINDERS ON OUR COVID-19 New Normal Personal and Social Health Protocols Update Term 2, 2021 attachment.

Our sincere condolences and prayers go out to all the families who lost a loved one during the three-week isolation period. We pray that our Almighty God will uphold you and protect you during this very difficult time.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over these challenging times especially in the last three weeks of Term 1, and we are very much looking forward to seeing all our students next Monday.

Kind regards

Mr George Swamy
Acting Executive Director

2021 TERM TWO - COVID-19 INFORMATION UPDATE

At school we will continue to social distance, require face covering, take temperatures daily, use increased disinfecting practices, and promote frequent hand washing/hand sanitizer as outlined below.

Our New Normal Health and Safety Protocols implemented at the start of this year at our school.

1. Social distancing

- Students social distancing in the classroom and in the lunch areas will remain in place.
- There will be no whole school assemblies, but grade level assemblies may be allowed with social distancing restrictions at the assembly venues.
- Class teacher social distancing zones in classrooms will remain in place.
- Reducing social interactions by having students in grade group sections after school at the waiting gates
- Teachers will implement social distancing, strategic seating/grouping in the classrooms,

2. Minimizing people movement and interactions over the course of the school day

➤ Daily Student Drop Off and Pick Up

- Parents are not to come on site but to drop and leave using their assigned School Gate for morning drop off and afternoon pick up.

- Parents are not to go to any classroom building and the Canteen at the beginning of the day, during the day and at the end of the day.
- We seek your assistance in dropping off and picking up your children. Please remain outside the entry/exit gates and follow instructions from teaching staff and security personnel on duty at the gates.

➤ Daily School Day starting time for ALL students

- 7.50am Monday to Friday.

➤ Daily School ending times are as follows:

| School Section | School ends -Time | Days |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Primary School - Pre-School to Grade 6 | 2.50pm | Monday to Friday |
| Secondary - Grade 7 to Grade 12 | 3.40pm | Monday, Tuesday and Thursday |
| Secondary School - Grade 7 to Grade 12 | 3.00pm | Wednesday and Friday |

➤ After School Pick-Up Time

- Primary school students without siblings in the Secondary School must be collected by **3.10pm** Monday to Friday.
- Primary School students with siblings in the Secondary School must be collected by **4.15pm** Monday to Friday

3. Administration Office Restrictions

- If you need to be on site to speak with staff in administration, the usual sign in procedures take place, *but you must wear a mask*. Sanitise hands using the portable hand sanitisers at the Security Table. Only five parents will be served at a time.
- Parents can be allowed **only** to Reception Area for school related matters and to drop off forgotten items.
- Only visitors with appointments will be allowed to Reception Area, and no other area of the school premises. They will also be expected to use hand sanitisers on entry into the school office.
- Any parents with appointments will also be expected to use hand sanitizer on entry into the school office.
- Only essential and pre-approved visitors/service delivery vans will be allowed on site. Those approved are required to wear a mask.
- Only approved staff vehicles will be parked in the School Car Park. Staff vehicles to drop off and pick up staff will be allowed to drive to the car park.

4. Masks are mandatory

- Our **'No Mask, No Entry'** will be strictly monitored by our Security Staff and Morning Gate Duty Staff at all the entrance/exit gates.
- Students must wear a mask at any time. The only time the students will be able to remove their mask will be during their recess and lunch break in their designated social distancing marked areas
- Students will wear a mask during teaching and learning times in the classroom and outside

the classroom learning sessions

- Students will remove their mask during their Physical Education/Sports lessons.
- Students must wear a mask while waiting in the afternoon for pick up by their parents.
- All staff members are required to wear a mask in common areas – staff centre, class changes, anytime outside their classrooms and in the classrooms.

5. Cleaning and Hygiene

➤ Increasing our cleaning efforts

- There will be additional and increased deep cleaning practices in place in all buildings (classroom, offices, toilets, lunch area tables) to ensure that high standards of hygiene are evident.
- Increased cleaning schedule of “high touch” surfaces and areas in the building, all classrooms, and toilets.
- Students will be expected to wash their hands on entering the school building and will be encouraged to wash their hands/sanitise their hands at regular points during the school day.
- Temperatures taken in the morning as students enter the gate by Yard Duty Staff and Security Staff - Students with a temperature above **37.2°C** will be isolated and sent home.
- Hand sanitizing at the beginning of the day the three gates. Duty teachers and Security staff will sanitize students' hands.
- Portable hand sanitizers will be used in classrooms during arrival and during the day.
- Increased hand washing throughout the day in the classrooms – Primary School grades

- Hand washing basins with soap and paper hand towels placed at four different places around the college for all students and staff use.
- Teachers will monitor extra handwashing/hygiene as often and feasible as possible

6. Sick Children

- Please be reminded to always keep your child at home if they are unwell. If your child displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19, such as sore throat and fever, you should take them to be tested or seek medical help.
- If your child shows these symptoms during the night, please keep them at home and seek medical attention immediately the next day. Please send an e-mail to the Class teacher or ring our Reception Staff and leave a message for the Class Teacher.
- **DO NOT SEND SICK CHILDREN TO SCHOOL.**