



Emmanuel Christian Community School

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Families,

The Emmanuel Community has truly risen to the challenges of this unprecedented time. I would like to acknowledge your outstanding support throughout the uncertainty of this global pandemic and its implications. I thank you all for your prayer, perseverance, support of the staff and leadership of the school during this time.

I thank God for His guidance and wisdom. The Leadership Team at Emmanuel seek God's wisdom at every opportunity through prayer and careful consideration before making decisions. Together, with God's guidance, we can see this through.

We have now received the latest announcements by the Federal government and the WA Premier Mark McGowan and the WA Minister for Education and Training Sue Ellery, regarding the beginning of Term 2 for schools.

We have now also received valuable support from the Valerie Gould the Executive Director of the Association of Independent Schools of WA (AISWA), in response to the recent Public-School directives on Friday 17 April. AISWA has provided ideas and assistance for independent schools to consider and choose the best plan for their community.

*After prayer and much consideration, the Emmanuel Senior Leadership Team have responded with a Term 2 Plan that we believe will best serve and support our community. We seek to maintain the integrity of the learning program for the students in our care, as well as maintaining a safe environment for all. **Our priority is to ensure the safety of every member of the community that comes onto the campuses.***

It is important to note that at present schools do not have a clear direction from the Chief Medical Officer that a return to full schooling is a safe option for staff and/or students.

With all this latest information available, the Emmanuel Senior Leadership Team have decided on the following plan to bring some clarity and direction for the beginning of Term 2.

TERM 2 ECCS COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN:

- **MONDAY 27th April – ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY**
- **TUESDAY 28th April - STUDENT FREE DAY.** This will be a professional learning and preparation day for all staff.
- **WEDNESDAY 29th April - SCHOOL OPEN FOR SOME STUDENTS under the following conditions:**

KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 10 STUDENTS:

- **Parents will continue to keep their children at home. These students will be able to continue the ECCS At-Home Learning Program.**
- **CHILDREN OF ESSENTIAL WORKERS, children whose parents need to maintain employment, and those who require the school to support them in overcome particular vulnerabilities may attend school. (Children at school will be supervised while they work through their At-Home Learning program)**

Term 2 – Week 3 and beyond

There will be a gradual 'phased' commencement to face-to-face learning for Kindergarten to Year 10 students. Further information, as to what this looks like will be communicated within the first two weeks of term.

YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS:

YEAR 11 and 12 STUDENTS are strongly encouraged to attend school to continue their course requirements. They will be returning to a modified timetable to reflect COVID-19 precautionary safety measures. Face to face teaching will be offered with subject teachers.

- **Every Year 12 and ATAR student will be** able to receive a WA Certificate of Education (WACE) and an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) in 2020, so that they may go on to further study, training, or employment next year.
- Students working toward a **Vocational Education and Training (VET)** qualification will not be disadvantaged due to any work placement cancellations.

Further Information:

- Parents and carers of children and young people with complex medical needs are encouraged to **seek medical advice** to support informed risk assessment and decision making regarding their child's attendance at school.
- Teaching and Learning will continue with the ECCS At-Home learning program for those students learning from home. For students attending school in Kindergarten to Year 10 the At-Home Learning program will be supervised by Teachers or Education Assistants in a classroom setting. A modified timetable to reflect COVID-19 precautionary measures is likely to be in place
- **Work packs** will be sent home and refreshed as needed for Primary and some Secondary students.
- For those students learning from home, **contact by the school** will be made regularly by phone, email, or another online medium.
- Staff will continue to be available for students educational and well-being needs.
- All Staff and students present on campus will be required to strictly adhere to all **physical distancing and recommended hygiene measures**.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

In addition to the **National Principles for School Education during COVID-19**, the National Cabinet, and the **Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)** have released health advice for schools.

The advice outlines some key messages for different groups within the school community:

- **Message for parents:** *if your child is sick, they must not go to school. You must keep them at home and away from others. Remember to maintain physical distancing from other parents and teachers when attending school, including when dropping off and picking up your children.*
- **Message for children:** *tell your parent, guardian, or teacher if you are feeling sick.*
- **Message for all adults:** *the greatest risk of transmission in the school environment is between adults. It is of upmost importance that teachers and parents alike maintain physical distancing between themselves and each other at school.*

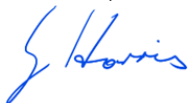
Term 2 at ECCS will have an increased focus on personal hygiene and physical distancing measures. The cleaning regime at the school will be 'stepped up' to include outside play equipment as well as high touch areas and surfaces. Classes will have significantly expanded cleaning and disinfection routines applied. Classroom Teachers and Education Assistants will be supplied with localized cleaning equipment for spot cleaning of classrooms and cleaners will be on duty during school hours.

- **Returning Year 11 & 12 Students will not have access to their lockers** and are advised to bring their bags containing only the books required for that day.
- ***Parents will be required to drop their students at the front entrance of the school at the designated drop off point and not enter the school grounds.*** A staff member will be on duty to escort Early Childhood students to their classroom.
- **Parents will be asked to minimize their time on the school grounds** and only be present if attending urgent school business. While on school grounds parents are asked to strictly adhere to physical distancing practices. There will be signage and marking instructions to adhere to.
- **Students who are sick will not be permitted to come to school.** Sickness can be dangerous to others during the COVID-19 pandemic. If a student exhibits cold or flu-like symptoms at school, parents will be contacted to pick them up.
- **Parents are encouraged to access the free influenza vaccine program** for their children, which is offered to all Primary aged students by the WA Health Department as we are leading into the Influenza season.
- **All excursions, incursions, camps, assemblies, before and after school and interschool activities** continue to be cancelled during Term 2.
- **Physical distancing practices will be strictly adhered to as far as practicable in a school setting** in classrooms, staffrooms, administration areas, staff offices, student pick up and drop off areas, canteen, uniform shop and School Receptions and foyers. **There will be signage and marking instructions to adhere to.**
- All students at school will need their own **labelled drink bottle**. All drink fountains at school are now only drink bottle filling stations.
- Please be aware that if there is a confirmed COVID-19 case, the school will close for one or more days in order to allow appropriate cleaning to be conducted.

The plan for the implementation of Term 2 at Emmanuel will be reviewed regularly by the Senior Leadership Team and adjustments may need to be made as the situation changes throughout the term or as directed by Government bodies.

I trust that this information has been helpful to you. We put our trust in our risen Saviour Jesus Christ, and together work to serve the Emmanuel Community.

God bless,



Gary Harris
Principal