

26 August 2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Families,

It was announced this morning that lockdown has been extended until **midnight Friday, 10 September 2021**. This means all schools in Regional NSW will remain at Level 4 restrictions for another two weeks.

I understand this is a very difficult time for families. The demands of working from home and students undertaking blended learning can be overwhelming. Unfortunately, the circumstances for which students can attend school remain unchanged. This direction from Catholic Schools NSW to schools is that **attendance at school continues to be limited to vulnerable students and those students where all parents/caregivers must attend their place of work and cannot work from home leaving their children unsupervised.**

Should your child meet the vulnerable student or child of essential workers' criteria and need to attend school, please be aware, under the Public Health Order, all secondary students are required to wear masks in all indoor areas and outdoor areas. Students who do not have a mask will be provided with one. If your child is exempt from wearing a mask, an exemption document must be carried with them at all times.

For Year 12 students, HSC Trial examinations are drawing to a close with many students completing major projects and now turning their attention to completing coursework and revision. Arrangements are being put into place to allow students who need access to specialised workshops and equipment to complete their major works.

Teachers are ensuring that your child is supported through these last few weeks of Term 3.

Our schools will ensure that the completion of school is acknowledged and celebrated. We don't know what this looks like at the moment but your child's school will be planning alternative arrangements that meet the COVID requirements.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support of schools and their staff. I am very grateful for everything staff are doing to provide continuity of learning, care and support for your children. While I wish the circumstances were different, we remain committed to supporting your child in their ongoing learning and wellbeing. We keep in our prayers those who may be unwell at this time and all involved in responding to the COVID-19 situation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,



Sally Towns
Director of Catholic Schools