

8th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your continued cooperation and partnership in your children's education this year. On Friday the NSW Premier announced some changes to COVID-19 restrictions in relation to schools which take effect on Monday 8th March 2021.

Illawarra Christian School continues to operate with a range of social distancing measures and minor adjustments to daily routines in order to keep our community safe. We are pleased to announce that most activities within school can returned to normal with some specific guidelines – including singing, dancing, sporting activities and parental presence at school activities.

SICKNESS AND LEAVE

Students should be at school unless sick or self-isolating according to the NSW Health guidelines. At school we continue work through the curriculum and have planned valuable learning activities in all classes. If your child is unwell, DO NOT send them to school until they are well, or we will contact you to collect them as a matter of urgency. Anyone with cold or flu symptoms must isolate, return a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free before returning to school.

PARENT PICK-UP

I am so encouraged by the support of parents in helping us with pick up and drop off of children at school. While parents are now allowed to come onto the school site to pick up their children, those doing so will need to register their presence on site and sign in at the office. To prevent overcrowding in the school office we are asking parents to continue picking their children up from school via the walkers' line on Derribong Drive if possible. Your children will join the walkers' line and be brought down under supervision. They can be collected from the teacher on walkers' duty south of the school driveway and school electronic sign. In the morning, please drop students off on Derribong Drive and send them up the northern driveway near the school office.

If you need to enter the school premises YOU MUST SIGN IN AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE before proceeding onto the school property.

Prep parents can continue drop off and pick up of their children under current arrangements.

Please do not park in Tyalla Place – it is a No Stopping zone during school times. Please abide by the parking rules at all times.

Wollongong Council is currently upgrading footpaths in the school vicinity so please allow additional time to park and walk during the next few weeks while this work is completed.

PARENT PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL

As a school we place high importance on the role of parents in their children's education and greatly appreciate the support many parents provide during the school day. In the coming days we will be communicating with parents about different ways they can be involved in school activities and in the classroom.

Please be aware of the following arrangements:

1. We are still required to make appointments and use sign-in arrangements for meetings. We have also been encouraged to use alternative technology platforms for parent/carer meetings and other events where practical.
2. We are delighted that we can now invite you to participate in our school assemblies. However, we are required to limit these events to less than an hour where possible and for adults to observe social distancing.
3. Our volunteer and parent helper program will operate under the following considerations:
 - Teachers will advise parents of the activities and times they are invited to assist in the classroom.
 - You will be required to notify the classroom teacher of your intention to assist in class prior to arriving on the school grounds.
 - When you arrive on site, you will be required to sign in using both the Service NSW QR code AND our School Office sign-in process.
 - The number of adult visitors in a class (indoors or outdoors) at one time is capped.

We look forward to seeing parents more in person and thank you for your support in these matters.

In Christ,



Simon Lainson
Principal

