

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Term 2 Week 3 – 11 May 2020

ACTING PRINCIPAL – Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Welcome back!

The staff and I are so excited to be able to have more and more students attending school as the weeks go on, as we have missed all the children so much. We look forward to catching up with the children face to face and ensuring they are back enjoying their learning time and socialising with their teachers and friends. This week has been so wonderful as we have been able to welcome back students and witness their excitement as they walk through the school gates again.



The decision to return to school sooner than I think any of us thought would be happening (including myself), is a directive given by the Commonwealth and State Governments that every NSW state school and Catholic systemic school to return to full time face to face as soon as possible.

In making this decision, each school needed to consider their staffing arrangements, any health concerns currently in the school and staff community and our ability to ensure cleaning and hygiene practices are in place, to decide when to come back full time.

At OLD we are able to bring students back full time in Week 5 as we have been able to implement all necessary hygiene requirements (outlined below) and all our teaching staff are able to return to full time teaching.

However, if you have any concerns for your family you are welcome to contact me to make arrangements suitable for your family. Please be aware HBL in Week 4 (on school days) will be greatly scaled down and will only include an English, Maths and Religion task each day, as the teachers will be teaching on these days.

Over the next couple of weeks, the teachers will be assessing where the children are currently at with their learning and where we need to go from here. In Week 4 we will be primarily focusing on English, Maths and Religious Education to ensure the fundamental skills are addressed first.

Today you will receive an additional Compass message about what the children need to bring each day to school (these lists may differ for each grade).

COMING EVENTS

MAY

Every Wednesday School Assembly via Zoom 8.45am

Monday 18 & Tuesday 19
Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 attend school

Wednesday 20 & Thursday 21
Kindergarten, Year 1 & Year 2 attend school

Monday 25 All students return to school

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Week 4 Return to School Schedule

On the designated days (listed below), students will be taught by their classroom teacher and will be with the rest of their class. If your child is unable to attend school because they are sick, please enter an attendance note on Compass before 9am. A reminder school starts at 8.45am.

WEEK 4	Kindy	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Stage 3
Monday 18th May	HBL	HBL	HBL	School	School	School
Tuesday 19th May	HBL	HBL	HBL	School	School	School
Wednesday 20th May	School	School	School	HBL	HBL	HBL
Thursday 21st May	School	School	School	HBL	HBL	HBL
Friday 22nd May	HBL					

Week 5 we will be returning back to school full time.

Dismissal arrangements for Week 4

NB: *Siblings will be dismissed with the youngest sibling*

Monday and Tuesday	Class	Location
2.40pm	4G	Kirk Street Gate (Please walk to the gate rather than waiting at the road)
2.40pm	4B	Front Office
2.50pm	3G	Kirk Street Gate
2.50pm	3B	Front Office
3pm	5/6G	Kirk Street Gate
3pm	5/6B	Front Office
3pm	5/6P	Stage 3 gate (near church)

- 3pm - Essential workers; front office
- 3pm - Kirk street pick up and walking line available (please email the front office if your child will be using these dismissal arrangements)
- If your primary child will be walking home by themselves please email the school office to give written permission.

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Wednesday & Thursday	Class	Location
2.40pm	KG	Kirk Street Gate (Please walk to the gate rather than waiting at the road)
2.40pm	KB	Front Office
2.50pm	1G	Kirk Street Gate
2.50pm	1B	Front Office
3pm	2G	Kirk Street Gate
3pm	2B	Front Office

- 3pm - Essential workers; front office (including Friday)
- 3pm - Kirk street pick up and walking line available (please email the front office if your child will be using these dismissal arrangements)

Virtual Open Days

Next week I am holding two virtual open days for all prospective families. We would really love your help by sharing this information and in particular share the Facebook Event on our OLD Facebook page with your friends and family.

Tuesday 19th 6-7pm and Thursday 21st 10-11am

To register for the virtual open day families need to use this link:

<https://forms.gle/3ZoCUR5jkNajAKFs5>



Camp Australia: I wish to thank Camp Australia for continuing to be such an amazing service to our community. They have remained open throughout this pandemic and will continue to run before and after school care for our students. Please book directly on their website if you wish to use this service.

REC – Miss Camilla Brown

Pre-loved uniform stall We understand with the change over to winter uniform many families may need to utilise the pre-loved uniform stall. It is currently still closed but we are investigating the best way we can make this accessible for families within the next week or so.

Invitation to Home Based Parent Spirituality Sessions: Last week the Catholic Schools Office offered their home-based spirituality session, which introduced us to the Ignatian 'Daily Awareness Examen' a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day, in order to detect God's presence and discern God's direction for us. It was wonderful to come together for a zoom coffee and conversation chat following the session. An invitation will be sent out early next week regarding the next spirituality session open to all parents, carers and friends of the Broken Bay Diocese. Please reach out to Jo Spek on jo.spek@dbb.catholic.edu.au if you would like to learn more!

Keeping Our School Safe!



Student hygiene practices



1. Use of non-contact greeting methods
2. Clean hands with soap when entering the school and regularly during the day

3. Do not share personal items (school supplies or toys brought in)

4. Games where students touch each other directly or indirectly (through a ball) will be discouraged.



5. Avoid touching your face and cover your coughs and sneezes - use hand sanitiser after sneezing or coughing.

6. Students will not mix with students in other grades - we will have staggered break times and dismissal times. There are also designated areas of the school for each grade during break time and dismissal times.

7. Students must use drink bottles that can be refilled rather than bubblers.

Whole school practices

1. A hygienist has been employed to be at the school during the day (additional to our regular cleaners) to:

- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, desks, chairs, and railings regularly.
- Clean highly touched surfaces in the toilets after each break time.



2. Increase ventilation in classrooms by opening doors and scheduling outdoor lessons throughout the day



3. There will not be whole school events until further notice (such as assemblies or sporting events) where students from different grades mix.

4. At this point in time the canteen & 2nd hand clothing stall remain closed.

Keeping our parents safe: We must still restrict parents entering the school grounds. Please adhere to social distancing measures at all times, as well as the dismissal arrangements. There are marks on the floor that we recommend you use for social distancing when picking up your children. Please follow the signs on our gates so we can keep everyone as safe as possible.

All students and teachers must stay at home if...



- they have symptoms of COVID-19, a cold or flu (students will be sent home if they exhibit any of these symptoms)
- they have a sick family member at home
- an additional sick bay has been created for students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19
- temperature checks will occur for any child exhibiting illness at school



Take care of your emotional and mental well-being

Outbreaks are a stressful and anxious time for everyone. We're here to support you! Reach out to old@dbb.catholic.edu.au if you need any support.

Please visit our website for information about financial support or fee relief.

We appreciate your support with these health and safety measures.

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CARERS

WHAT IS THE NCCD?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) takes place every year.

The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- the number of school students receiving an adjustment or 'help' due to disability
- the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This 'help' allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#).

Schools provide this information to education authorities.

Go to [What is a reasonable adjustment?](#) below to learn about adjustments.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools in Australia must collect information about students with disability.

The NCCD:

- ensures that the information collected is transparent, consistent and reliable
- provides better information that improves understanding of students with disability
- allows parents, guardians, carers, teachers, principals, education authorities and government to better support students with disability.

Student with disability loading

Funding from the Australian Government for students with disability is based on the NCCD through the student with disability loading.

Students with disability who are counted in the top three levels of the NCCD (extensive, substantial and supplementary) attract the loading. Funding is based on a per-student amount at each of the three levels of additional support. The amount of the loading reflects the level of support students with disability need to participate fully in school, with higher funding for those who need higher levels of support.

Australian Government recurrent school funding is provided as a lump sum to school authorities including state and territory governments, which can then distribute the funding to their member schools according to their own needs-based arrangements.

The Government expects schools and school systems to consider their funding from all sources (ie Australian Government, state and territory and private) and prioritise their spending to meet the educational needs of all of their students, including students with disability. This can include payment of professional learning for staff and building inclusive cultures in schools.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE NCCD FOR STUDENTS?

The information collected by the NCCD helps teachers, principals, education authorities and governments to better support students with disability at school.

The NCCD encourages schools to review their learning and support systems and processes. This helps schools to continually improve education outcomes for all students.

WHAT MUST SCHOOLS DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students have the right to a quality learning experience at school.

Students with disability must be able to take part in education without discrimination and on the same basis as other students. To ensure this, schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed for students with disability. Educators, students, parents, guardians, carers and others (eg health professionals) must work together to ensure that students with disability can take part in education.

The [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) and the [Disability Standards for Education 2005](#) describe schools' responsibilities.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is an action to help a student with disability take part in education on the same basis as other students.

Adjustments can be made across the whole school (eg ramps into school buildings). They can be in the classroom (eg adapting teaching methods). They can also be for individual student need (eg providing personal care support).

The school assesses the needs of each student with disability. The school provides adjustments in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers.

Schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed. The Disability Standards for Education 2005 define 'reasonable adjustment' as an adjustment that balances the interests of all parties affected.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NCCD?

The definition of disability for the NCCD is based on the broad definition under the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#).

The following students are examples of those who may be included in the NCCD if they need monitoring and adjustments:

- students with learning difficulties (such as dyslexia)
- students with chronic health conditions (such as epilepsy or diabetes).

WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NCCD?

Schools identify which students will be counted in the NCCD. They base their decisions on the following:

- adjustments provided for the student (after consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers)
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnoses
- other relevant information.

School principals must ensure that information for the NCCD is accurate.

WHAT INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

A student is counted in the NCCD if they receive reasonable adjustments at school due to disability.

Each year, schools collect the following information about the student, including:

- their year of schooling
- the level of adjustment received
- the broad type of disability.

For students who have more than one disability, the school uses professional judgement to choose one category of disability. They choose the category that most affects the student's access to education and for which adjustments are being provided.

A high level summary of the NCCD data is available to all Australian state and territory governments to improve policies and programs for students with disability.

HOW IS THIS DATA USED?

The NCCD data informs funding and work by schools and sectors. It ensures that support for students with disability becomes routine in the day-to-day practice of schools. The NCCD also supports students in the following ways.

- The NCCD helps schools better understand their legislative obligations and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.
- Schools focus on the individual adjustments that support students with disability. This encourages them to reflect on students' needs and to better support students.
- The NCCD facilitates a collaborative and coordinated approach to supporting students with disability. It also encourages improvements in school documentation.
- The NCCD improves communication about students' needs between schools, parents, guardians, carers and the community.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) annually publishes high-level, non-identifying NCCD data.

WHEN DOES THE NCCD TAKE PLACE?

The NCCD takes place in August each year.

IS THE NCCD COMPULSORY?

Yes. All schools must collect and submit information each year for the NCCD. This is detailed in the *Australian Education Regulation 2013*. For more information, ask your school principal or the relevant education authority.

HOW IS STUDENTS' PRIVACY PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students is an essential part of the NCCD.

Data is collected within each school. Personal details, such as student names or student identifiers, are not provided to federal education authorities. Learn more about privacy in the [Public information notice](#).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your school if you have questions about the NCCD. You can also visit the [NCCD Portal](#).

There is also a free [e-learning resource](#) about the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Disability Standards for Education 2005*.

This document must be attributed as *Fact sheet for parents, guardians and carers*.

MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2022 NOW



We understand that some families are currently unable to submit enrolment forms in person, so we are now accepting enrolments via email. Send your scanned application form along with copies of your daughter's Birth Certificate*, Sacramental Certificates*, Immunisation Statement, last School Report and NAPLAN Report to

smccc.registrar@dbb.catholic.edu.au

The deadline for applications has been extended to Friday 29 May

*Original copies will need to be sighted prior to the interview process

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