



**Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic School**

1st Feb January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to the letter you received on Tuesday 25th January from Catholic Education Tasmania, I wish to outline further contextual arrangements for Our Lady of Lourdes, in our attempt to place in mitigation factors with the Omicron Variant of the Coronavirus, for the next 5 weeks. **OLOL begins school on Thursday 3rd February.**

Learning at Home, for students who are isolating due to Covid -19 or students with an underlying medical condition who are at home, will be accessible from our website: <https://olol.tas.edu.au/>. This will be ready to access from Monday 7th February. This learning is provided for all students across the school and is not class specific. There will be opportunities to engage with Mr Farr, via zoom, if your child is engaging in L@H materials.

Morning Drop off at School will have two specific areas for parents and students to wait:

1. Top Cement for Grades Kinder - 3
2. Outside the Canteen for Grades 4 - 6

Our intention is to minimise contact between Early Childhood Classes and Primary Classes, in order to contain, if possible, wide transmission of the virus.

Prep - Gr 3 classes will enter via the Blue Door, turn left and walk through the Prep Courtyard to their respective classes.

Primary Classes will proceed through the yellow doors by the canteen, around the oval and enter via the back steps to the Gr 6 area and then proceed to their respective classes.

Kinder will enter and exit via the Kinder gates.

The Admin Entrance on Stewart Street is not for student entry.

Parents are welcome to walk their child/ren to classes and we ask that this time is kept to a minimum, with mask wearing and social distancing.

At the **end of the day** students will leave via the same manner - heading to the driveway and pickup zone. All parents, are asked to wait on the top cement, drive way or pickup



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zone to greet their students. We ask that parents do not enter the school for the afternoon pick up as congestion is a real concern.

All parents and visitors are required to wear a mask whilst indoors at OLOL, maintain social distancing and expected hygiene behaviours and keep on-site indoor time to a minimum.

All staff will be **wearing masks** inside the school. Primary School students in Tasmania are not required to wear masks, as previously advised by the Department of Health. Students 12 and over do need to wear masks on public buses.

Volunteers are greatly appreciated at OLOL and we just ask that for the next 5 weeks, volunteers refrain from coming on site. Your assistance with this will be greatly appreciated as we monitor the health and wellbeing of staff, students and the school community.

We do encourage parents and carers to limit their time in the school when dropping off students and also encourage you to create independence in your children so they can enter school on their own.

Whole School Prayer will now be in classes for the first 5 weeks as a beginning of the week class prayer. Once we return to the church we will livestream the service via our Facebook site.

Assemblies will be led by the School Captains via our speaker system, with students remaining in classrooms. There will be a Leadership Assembly on Feb 18th on the top cement or back oval with a Covid-19 Safe Plan in place. Further information to be provided on this closer to the time.

Canteen will provide all food requirements, via the on- line ordering process. There will be no lining up for snacks for the next 5 weeks.

Lunchtimes will be alternated between ECE classes being on the top cement and blue courts for first lunch whilst Primary Students are on the Fox Playground and Oval and second lunch will be the reverse of this.

Grade 6 Camp has been postponed until later in the year.



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Breakfast Club: Cancelled for the first 5 weeks.

Student movement in classes around the school to specialist subjects will be spaced out with minimal contact between classes.

Cleaning of the school will remain a priority with high touch surfaces cleaned regularly and sanitiser readily available.

Any student showing **flu-like symptoms** will be required to return home and parents will be contacted for pick up. Students will be provided with a mask, taken from the classroom by an adult, and monitored until they are picked up. Our WHS Officer will let the parents of the class concerned, know if there has been a confirmed case and to monitor their own children for symptoms. This communication will be by letter via compass. Children can continue to attend school if they have no symptoms.

The **Swimming Carnival** in Week 6 will have modifications to it to allow students to compete in grades separated from other grades. Further information to come closer to the time.

Parent-Teacher Evening in Week 3 will be by phone and invitations sent out for these soon.

I anticipate that there will be more correspondence to you as the situation changes. The school will respond to changes in an adaptive and flexible manner and as advised by the Department of Health and Catholic Education Tasmania.

I acknowledge that these may be stressful times for staff, parents and students and offer my reassurance that we will do everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our community. Please feel free to contact me if you have queries or need a chat. I am always available on duty before school and will be present after school most days as students leave the school.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'C. Seagar'.

Carol Seagar
(Principal)