

COVID-19 - High Case Load

FAQs | COVID-19 – 8 February 2022

PARISH AND SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS	
Q	Are Masses with students able to proceed at parish churches?
A	<i>Yes; Mass is able to proceed at parish churches, with mitigation strategies in place including: face masks where mandated, social distancing should be adhered to and good hygiene practices such as hand sanitiser. Liaise with the parish priest to ensure the space is well ventilated.</i>
Q	Are school/class Masses on school sites permitted?
A	<i>Yes, but these gatherings must be limited to single Year Groups. Parents are unable to attend.</i>
Q	Can Sacramental Preparation Parent Meetings continue?
A	<i>Where Sacramental Preparation Programs are organised by the parish such meetings can continue on a school site if the parish adheres to all WA Health directions.</i>
Q	Are Parish Sacramental Enrolment Masses able to proceed?
A	<i>At this time, Parish Sacramental Enrolment Masses can proceed, providing the event is held at a parish church. Once again, please ensure that all mitigation strategies are being employed.</i>
Q	What do we do about scheduled Adult Faith Formation sessions?
A	<i>If it is a parish based Adult Faith Formation program, sessions may take place on the school campus if the parish adheres to all WA Health directions.</i>
Q	Do parents need to show proof of vaccination when attending a parish church?
A	<i>At present, proof of vaccination is not required at parishes/churches or chapels for under 500 attendees.</i>
Q	Can students attend weekday parish Masses in their parish church?
A	<i>Yes, provided that year groups are not mixed and that normal protocols are applied.</i>
SCHOOL BASED ACTIVITIES	
Q	Can Outside School Care on campus continue?
A	<i>Yes, it can continue as there is no directive in place at this stage. Please contact your third party provider and refer to https://cewaedu.sharepoint.com/sites/Learning/SitePages/Rowing-Together.aspx</i>
Q	What action should be taken for a teacher who is repeatedly in breach of the mask mandate?
A	<i>Staff who refuse to wear their mask should be sent an email warning, once they have been reminded and given opportunity to respond, if they continue to ignore public health requirements, they may be subject to formal disciplinary action, including a formal written warning. Your Employment Relations Consultant can assist with this.</i>
Q	Given (daily) Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) are part of the process for close contacts who are critical workers - do schools need to purchase and supply, are CEWA sourcing a supply for schools, or is the onus on staff to purchase?
A	<i>Please hold off purchasing any RATs until clarification is obtained from the State Government.</i>
Q	Are therapists and music tutors able to continue to present to school campuses?
A	<i>Yes, support staff may continue to attend schools but should ensure physical distancing between students of different year levels.</i>
Q	Should extracurricular activities with mixed year levels be cancelled?
A	<i>Wherever possible mixed year level gatherings should be avoided as per the WA Health advice.</i>
Q	Are swimming lessons allowed to proceed?
A	<i>Yes.</i>
Q	Is after school sports training allowed?
A	<i>Yes, if outdoors.</i>
Q	Can Kindy screening continue?
A	<i>Yes.</i>

Q	Can excursions proceed?
A	<i>Yes, subject to venue requirements and COVID-safe plans.</i>
Q	Are school camps allowed to proceed?
A	<i>No, school camps may not proceed at this time. Single day retreats/excursions may take place.</i>
Q	Can students from other schools visit my school for indoor activities?
A	<i>No, however if there are activities between students from different schools which take place off-site, these can proceed subject to the venue's COVID-safe plan.</i>
Q	Can schools continue to hold assemblies?
A	<i>Schools can hold face to face assemblies indoors but should be limited to a class size (32) or a small groups within a year group. Parents are not permitted to attend.</i>
Q	Can we conduct whole school events like carnivals, school balls and interschool competitions on site?
A	<i>No. Infrequent special events can only continue off-site, if physical distancing recommendations, mask mandates and venue rules for mandatory vaccination are in place, and if the venue/organiser has an up-to-date COVID-19 Safety Plan that it continues to implement.</i>
Q	Can school balls proceed?
A	<i>Yes, if held off-site and following all the venue requirements. School balls may not proceed onsite.</i>
Q	Can we undertake off-site activities?
A	<i>Infrequent special events can continue, including school balls, and interschool outdoor events provided physical distancing recommendations, mask mandates and venue rules for proof of vaccination are followed, and if the venue/organiser has COVID-19 Safe Plans in place.</i>
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	
Q	How should we host our CSPWA, P&F and SAC Meetings?
A	<i>All meetings are to be held online.</i>
Q	Can schools continue third party arrangements for use of facilities?
A	<i>Schools can continue third party arrangements if users adhere to WA Health directions.</i>
SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS	
Q	Would it be possible for someone to inform neighbouring schools, and feeder schools of positive COVID-19 cases?
A	<i>Collaboration between principal colleagues is encouraged.</i>
Q	Are we able to be provided with confirmed COVID-19 case communications templates?
A	<i>Please work with the Communications team at the CEO for the templates for your school's context.</i>
GENERAL	
Q	If someone in my household is a close contact, do I need to isolate?
A	<i>No. Only close contacts of a positive case need to self-quarantine. People should take extra precautions and have no interaction with close contacts. If the close contact you live with becomes positive, then you must get tested and isolate as per instructions from WA Health.</i>
Q	Can we use the staffroom?
A	<i>Staffroom facilities may be used as needed, however staff are required to maintain physical distancing where possible and adhere to mask mandate requirements. Where possible, staff lunch breaks should be held in learning areas, or year group areas outdoors or other appropriate rooms.</i>
Q	Can staff gather together at break times?
A	<i>Principals should encourage staff to take breaks where appropriate. Staff can gather if adhering to physical distancing and mask mandate requirements where possible. They can gather while eating and drinking but should limit the time together to under 15 minutes.</i>
Q	Are medically vulnerable and immunocompromised staff required to attend work?
A	<i>All employees even those at high risk are able to attend work with appropriate controls in place.</i>
Q	Are parents allowed on school sites?

A	<i>Parents and caregivers are not allowed in the classroom, nor should they volunteer in classrooms. Meetings between parents or caregivers are to be held over the telephone or electronically where possible. Parents and caregivers are able to volunteer in roles outside of the classroom that are essential for the operations of the school, including the canteen and uniform shop. Parents and caregivers can drop off and collect students in outdoor settings only. Parents and caregivers are to follow WA government mask wearing mandates and maintain physical distancing from other adults. Gatherings of parents on school sites are to be avoided.</i>
Q	Are there preferred cleaning companies to enact the enhanced cleaning of a school?
A	<i>As per the Principal Checklist provided last year, you may use one of the following enhanced cleaning contractors:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGFC Covid Contract • Airlite Group Covid Contract • NS COvid Contract • Kleenit Covid Contract • ICS Covid Contract <i>Please contact peter.davis@cewa.edu.au or josh.goddage@cewa.edu.au if you require assistance. (Note: your current cleaning contractor can be used as long as they are able to complete cleaning according to the Health Department requirements).</i>
Q	Are parents permitted in school classrooms to help their children settle? For example, students with disabilities or very young children?
A	<i>Students with disability or very young children needing adult support for classroom entry should be facilitated by school staff, at this time.</i>
TEACHING AND LEARNING	
Q	I have a number of students isolating due to being a close contact of a COVID-19 confirmed positive case. Do I provide work for those students?
A	<i>Yes, schools are encouraged to enact their remote learning protocols for this scenario.</i>
Q	Are practicum students allowed on school sites?
A	<i>Yes, however they are subject to all the regular requirements including vaccination.</i>