



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Media Statement

14 May 2020

Catholic education and return to classroom teaching in Term Two

Catholic schools across Western Australia today advised parents that classroom teaching for all students will recommence from Monday, 18 May.

This decision follows a comprehensive school readiness review by CEWA earlier this week, and aligns with the WA Government's advice for public schools, as well as the latest information from the WA Chief Medical Officer and the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee.

Students who are immune-compromised, or otherwise considered at-risk, will be supported by their school to continue learning from home.

Since the start of Term Two, CEWA schools have been actively planning a return to classroom teaching for all students, while physical attendance at school has been strong across the system.

Based on school attendance surveys conducted this week, student attendance at Catholic schools has been higher than 80 percent system-wide, with higher attendance rates again for students in Years 11 and 12.

Additional cleaning and hygiene measures will be sustained, and some school practices, including canteen operations, assemblies and uniform services, will be altered to comply with advice on minimising the risk of virus transmission.

"Students at Catholic schools across WA have been happy to get back to school in recent weeks, to see their friends and teachers again, and to learn in the classroom," said Dr Debra Sayce, CEWA Executive Director.

"I know our school staff have been thrilled to have students back on-site, and we are pleased that from next week, following the latest health advice, we can safely and confidently welcome all students back to learning with their peers, in their classrooms,

"Of course, we acknowledge that this has been a challenging and stressful time for many, and Catholic schools will continue to focus on the care and wellbeing of students, staff and families as we welcome back some students returning to their classrooms for the first time this Term," Dr Sayce said.

ENDS