



# Freeman Catholic College Bonnyrigg Heights

Sydney Catholic Schools Ltd ACN 619 137 343  
as trustee for Sydney Catholic Schools Trust ABN 26 158 447 082

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25th January, 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

## Commencement of the 2021 school year - update on COVID-19 guidelines

I hope you had a blessed and holy Christmas and a healthy start to the New Year. I hope the students are looking forward to their return to Freeman and another year of learning and camaraderie and that you and your families are well. This note is to update you as to the latest COVID guidelines that we are required to implement as the students return to school.

For ease of reference, these requirements are summarised in a table at the end of this letter.

Unfortunately, for the time being, I am still not able to allow parents general access to Freeman Catholic College for Information Evenings, Masses and Assemblies. The exception that has been granted by NSW Health is that parents of Year 7 2021 students are able to enter the school site on Thursday 28th January to wait with their children until the day begins.

The following COVID safe guidelines must be followed by Year 7 parents/carers if they wish to bring a Year 7 child onto the school grounds on Thursday 28th January.

1. Access is via the Mount St gates only from 8.00am. Students are required to be in attendance by 8.30am
2. Parents must sign in and provide mobile phone numbers
3. Parents are required to observe the 1.5m safe distance rule from other parents and preferably wear a mask
4. Afternoon dismissal arrangements are as previously advertised

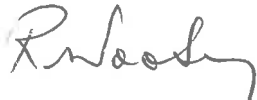
Please remember that students are not to attend school if they have any flu like symptoms. Last year's requirement that students who display flu-like symptoms are required to return a negative COVID-19 test and be symptom-free before returning to school remains.

A major change that will affect **all students** is a new requirement that all students who use **bus transport to and from school** and all students who use a bus to go to **Tuesday sport and excursions** will now be required to wear a **mask**.

Thank you for your patience and ongoing understanding as we continue to work through the evolving and no doubt, changing guidelines. I will contact you in the coming days with a revised schedule for information evenings and other school events.

I look forward to working with you to make Freeman Catholic College not a good school, not a great school but a better school for each of you.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Wooby', written in a cursive style.

Raymond Wooby B.Ec DipEd M.Ed (RE)  
Principal

## COVID SAFE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Area	Regulations
Distancing and Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students are not required to practise physical distancing whilst at school.</li> <li>● Increased cleaning protocols remain.</li> <li>● Reminders to students about personal hygiene, hand washing, cleaning shared items etc.</li> </ul>
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All students should be attending school unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.</li> <li>● If students are unwell, they must not attend school, even with the mildest of flu-like symptoms.</li> <li>● Students must return a negative COVID-19 test, which must be provided to the school, and be symptom free prior to returning to school.</li> <li>● If a student develops flu-like symptoms whilst at school, they will be sent to the office and parents contacted to collect them and have a COVID-19 test.</li> </ul>
School assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Whole school assemblies can continue however, parents and carers are not able to attend these events in school hours.</li> </ul>
School masses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● School masses in school hours cannot include any external visitors and will be held outdoors where possible</li> <li>● Masses/events in the church must adhere to the NSW Government's requirements for places of worship (capacity based on 4m<sup>2</sup> with limit of 100 people)</li> </ul>
Excursions, Camps and Retreats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Field trips, excursions and camps can now proceed (except to aged care facilities).</li> </ul>
Parents on site	<p>During school hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parents are allowed on site for essential activities only during school hours. This includes pre-organised meetings with teachers, and working in the canteen.</li> <li>● No attendance at sporting or other activities in school hours.</li> </ul> <p>After school hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● P&amp;F and other school meetings limited to 30 participants onsite and 1 hour duration</li> <li>● Attendance in line with 1.5 distancing between non-household members and capacity based on 4m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff and students are not required to wear a face mask while at school.</li> <li>● Anyone who wishes to wear their own face mask in schools can do so.</li> <li>● Students over 12 must comply with the Public Health (COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings) Order 2021 when travelling to and from school and during transport for school excursions/sport etc.</li> </ul>