

Emmanuel Catholic College

Whadjuk Boodjar, 122 Hammond Road, Success WA 6164 Telephone: 08 9414 4000 Email: admin@emmanuel.wa.edu.au

www.emmanuel.wa.edu.au



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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students

As Premier Mark McGowan has recently communicated, WA is seeing an increasing number of cases of COVID-19 in the community due to the BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron subvariants. While the Chief Health Officer has said that this should not be cause for alarm, we are being encouraged not to become complacent in taking preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19, including the wearing of masks.

Masks are required to be worn for people aged 12 years and older in the following settings:

- GPs;
- Aboriginal health services;
- Dental and optical health clinics;
- Hospitals, aged care and disability care facilities;
- Public and passenger transport, including school buses;
- Aircraft.

Masks are also encouraged where physical distancing is not possible. As a school we encourage parents, caregivers, staff and students to wear a mask on school grounds if they are unable to physically distance from others. Masks are an effective measure to lessen the risk of both spreading and becoming infected with COVID-19.

If students and staff become symptomatic, they should stay home and be tested for COVID-19. Please continue to notify the school if your child tests positive for COVID-19 through the <u>Self-Report Form</u> and refer to <u>healthywa.wa.gov.au</u> for information on close contact definition, testing and isolation requirements.

Kind regards

Mr Paul Watson Principal