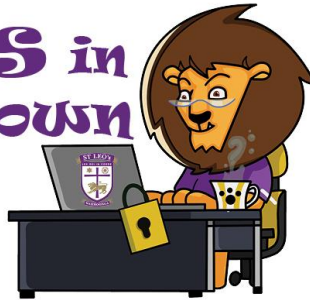




Leo's in Lockdown



Letter No 5 - Covid-19 Update

20 July 2021

Dear St Leo's community,

I trust this letter finds you well and our young people are engaged in their learning, following the new timetable. Since my last communication the NSW Government has placed further Covid19 restrictions upon Greater Sydney. These increased restrictions do not really affect our day to day operations here at the College, except the number of staff on site has been greatly reduced and they are working from home. *Of course, the College is open and students are still welcome to attend and we will continue with the supervision.* We are averaging about 2-3% of students that require supervision per day. That figure is very similar across the CSBB Secondary schools.

Over the past two evenings I have phoned selected parents (parents/carers of students with birthdays) and the new timetable seems to be working well. If you have any feedback - please don't hesitate to contact me or any other staff member, or leave a message at College Reception on 9487 3555.



Intake 2021 to Year 11 Assessment Task Schedule

Over the next few days some College Staff will be working on a revised Assessment Task (AT) Schedule for students in Intake 2021 to Year 11.

We want to ensure that the revised AT schedule will:

1. Best support our students in their learning and ensure a *fair* workload
2. Best support our staff - with respect to workload and due dates for reporting etc
3. Best support for our parents/carers (to ensure the health and well-being of all)
4. Avoid an unrealistic accumulation of ATs (*eg in the last two weeks of Term III*)
5. Adhere to protocols/guidelines from NESAs
6. Ensure the learning/teaching cycle continues - rather than a heavy weighting to the conduct and occurrence of ATs

This will be achieved by:

1. *Possible rescheduling of listed ATs*
2. *Possible cancellation of some listed ATs*
3. *Possible reweighting of listed ATs*
4. *Creative thinking about the listed ATs*

Part of the process will involve **consultation** with a selection of **parents/carers and students**.

The aim is to have a published revised schedule of Assessment Tasks by the end Friday 6 August (end of Week 4).



Student Daily Wellbeing Check-ins

Throughout the first week of home-based learning, students were invited to complete a daily wellbeing survey during Mentor classes. This has enabled the College to gain a good baseline on the mental health and overall wellbeing of our students.

In addition, it has also provided students with an opportunity to flag any major concerns with us, as well as give them an avenue to request a staff member to make contact with them (such as the College Counsellor or Year Leader). Overall, this has been well-received and completed by the vast majority of students.

As we progress through Week 2 of Home-Based Learning, we have moved to surveying students twice a week - on Tuesday and Thursday mornings during Mentor. Please flag this with your young person so they are aware that this support mechanism is still available. However, should a student need help or support outside of those days, they can still reach out to their Mentor, Year Leader, Case Manager or Classroom Teacher, via email or through Google Classroom. College Counsellor, [Anne-Marie Newham](#), and Acting Director of Pastoral Care and Wellbeing, [Nathan Smith](#) are also available to assist students and parents/carers if required. ***So please do not hesitate to reach out for help if needed.***

Finally, a reminder of the [Wellbeing Resource Pack](#) that we have put together which contains a range of resources to support young people (and their parents/carers) during this challenging time.



Year 12

Yesterday I sent a video from our CSBB Director, Mr Danny Casey to our Year 12 students and their parents/carers.

NESA has not released any further information than what I have previously updated to you.

The **HSC Trials** are scheduled to commence here at the College (*The Light of Christ Centre*) on Monday 9th August. I would expect Year 12 students back here onsite on Monday 2nd August - Day 6, pending of course, NSW Government regulations.



Year 8 into Year 9 Subject Selections

Brief information to the parents about the dates etc

Early next week the College will be electronically sending out the Year 9 (2022) Subject Selection Booklet to the current Year 8 students and their parents/carers.

Next Wednesday (28 July) Year 8 students will be having a Zoom session (during extended mentor) about the Subject selection process.

The Year 8 students will be given till Wednesday (4 August) to make their subject selection choices.

Week 4 (Wednesday) - Students have their subject selection choices finalised.



Vinnies Winter Sleepout (at home!)

It's not too late for students to join the Leo's event of the lockdown - our Vinnies Winter Sleepout (at home!) next **Friday, 30 July**. We have already raised just under **\$4000** and are sitting third on the schools leaderboard!

Students from Year 12 to Intake 2021 can join the Leo's team and other CSBB high schools in raising awareness and funds to help end homelessness by 'sleeping rough' in your backyard, on your verandah or balcony, in the car or living room. Entertainment for the evening will include online games, chats and presentations via Zoom.

As a very special incentive to be involved this year, students who sign up and raise at least \$100 will receive a limited edition Leo's in Lockdown beanie!

To make a donation, join the St Leo's team, or set up your own fundraising page [CLICK HERE](#). Please contact [Rev Gomez](#) if you would like further information.



Liverpool Football Academy Update

Due to the need to postpone the commencement of the Joint Venture Academy between St Leo's Catholic College and the Liverpool Football Club, a home-based training package has been established. This package is for students and their families to enjoy and embrace. Each week, a new program will be uploaded onto the St Leo's Sports Google Classroom Page. This will also be the place for students to post their videos of the challenges that are incorporated throughout the program. All students are welcome to engage with the program, regardless of their interest in Football. The St Leo's Sports Google Classroom code is: **ziq743p**

[Here is a link outlining more detailed information](#) about what the program will involve. Here is a suggested Home Training Program for Week 1 - [Full Schedule](#)



Reminder: Students - are you following the correct Timetable?

The latest timetable for your subjects / classes can be found on your **Compass Home page**. Please contact your relevant Leader of Year if you can't access it.



School Fee Assistance

We are mindful that the current COVID-19 lockdown may be impacting your ability to afford school fees.

Catholic Schools Broken Bay would like to do what we can to assist any of our families in need during this time. In response to this current lockdown, we have **expanded our current COVID-19 Fee Support Program** to include additional support for parents/carers impacted financially due to the lockdown. Under this program, where the income of one or both parents/carers has been reduced by at **least 20%** and current year fees were up to date prior to the lockdown (paid up until the end of May 2021), parents/carers will be eligible for a reduction on school fees due and payable in July and August.

Payments on the balance of fees will commence from Term 4, 2021.

Details and the application form can be found under the Parent Hub section of our website ([click here](#)) or by contacting the *Fee Liaison Team* (at schoolfees@dbb.org.au or 9847 0728).



This support package is designed to provide short term assistance during the lockdown.

If you require longer term assistance or don't meet the eligibility criteria, we have other options available for assistance.

Please contact the *Fee Liaison Team* to discuss your circumstances and other pathways available for fee support (schoolfees@dbb.org.au or 9847 0728). We look forward to being able to assist you if you require fee support during this period.

We are very conscious of the impact this lockdown will have on our staff, students and families. We are in regular contact with Catholic Schools NSW and will keep you updated as further information is available.

Thank you for your support of our school, our prayers are with you and please stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tony Gleeson'.

Tony Gleeson
Principal

PS - One of the parents sent me [this image](#) yesterday - so let's not forget to continue to keep up our prayers for one another, particularly during these isolated times.