

Wednesday 5 August 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

Today a case of COVID-19 was reported at the St Margaret Mary's Primary Merrylands. The community has been notified and the school has been closed for deep cleaning.

We understand that this news will cause concern for many local families. Please note that the advice from NSW Health for all other schools is that students and staff remain free to attend school as usual unless they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or:

- they have any symptoms of COVID-19, in which case they should seek testing and stay at home until notified of results and they have recovered; or
- they are aware or have been notified by NSW Health that they have been in close contact with a case of COVID-19 and are required to self-isolate.

This advice includes siblings of students who attend St Margaret Mary's Primary Merrylands. We continue to closely monitor these issues and will keep you updated as we work together for the health and safety of our school communities.

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) has been working closely with NSW Health to identify students or staff who have had 'close contact' with the confirmed case of COVID-19 at St Margaret Mary's Primary. NSW Health is currently conducting 'contact tracing' and will notify close contacts and advise them what action is required. The date for the school to reopen is still to be finalised.

Please continue to be mindful of symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath. If your child/children develop these symptoms, please see a doctor (call ahead to alert your doctor about the possibility of COVID-19 before visiting and take this letter with you) or go to a COVID-19 testing clinic. A new pop-up testing clinic has been set up at Merrylands Park. You can find a full list of the clinics [here](#).

The latest NSW Health Advice, Guidelines & Public Health Alerts based on locations is available [here](#). You can find the NSW Health COVID Guidelines Schools and Child Care Centres [here](#). [This link](#) can help with translation and interpreting from English. The 24-hour phone number for immediate interpreting help is 131 450.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in the response to COVID-19.

Yours sincerely

**Steven Jones**  
Principal