

27 March 2020

REF: 20.JMS112

Dear Parents and Caregivers

F-12 Families employed in Essential Services – Week 11 Supervision

Further to Andrew Linke's letter yesterday I write to all F-12 families regarding the four Student Free Days in Week 11. The College wishes to provide further information to families to help them ascertain whether they are eligible for this service.

The College has a responsibility to ensure the Government's position regarding slowing the virus spread is being followed. The Government has provided very clear boundaries that all people should isolate in the confines of their home as a priority where possible, to slow the spread of the virus. Not doing so needlessly increases the risk of spreading the virus. It follows that in Week 11 Term 1 school children too, are to remain home where this is at all possible for families. The days in Week 11 have been declared 'Pupil Free'. If parents have appropriate capacity available for their children to be supervised during Week 11, children should be safely kept at home and not sent to school. Where parents are however both regarded as 'essential workers' (and not working from home), and no other supervision options are available, students are welcome to come to school during normal school hours. It also follows that if a child is old enough to responsibly manage themselves during the day (with periodic parent check in), they should remain safely within the home and not attend school where the risk of participating in the spread of the virus is increased.

Children are welcome to come to school where there is no Carer at home to supervise their children because they are working in essential services. Because we expect this to be a very small number of children, the College will be able to support and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

No teaching or educational programs will be delivered on these days (as these are pupil free days). All staff will be busy preparing for full time Remote Learning in Term 2.

Children who attend the supervision days will be required to bring their own activities, puzzles, books/novels, toys, inquiry learning, etc, to enable them to work quietly and independently. This will enable the College to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Children who attend the supervision days will need to wear their school uniform. There will be no OSHC available in Week 11 and children will need to be picked up at the end of the normal school day **at 3.10pm**.

I wish to reiterate that **this service is only for 'essential workers' where there is no capacity for your child to be supervised in any other capacity.**

Any parents who look to send children for supervision unnecessarily, are supporting a COVID-19 risk to the community and the College is unable to support this situation.

To ensure safe practices in all areas that align with government directives, parents are asked to sign a declaration on the accompanying page stating that there is no appropriate supervision available in the home that day and they are an 'essential worker'.

Week 11 is followed by the Easter long weekend. Following Easter, all children will continue to stay at home for their regular two weeks of school holidays. During this time, there will be no supervision of children at Emmaus Christian College. Term 2 resumes on Tuesday 28 April. Although it remains unclear, we are expecting the government will announce that children will remain at home and move to online Remote Learning from the beginning of Term 2. Arrangements for Term 2 will be considered by the College based on information available at that time and communicated to families as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for working in partnership with us as we seek to maintain a safe environment for all.

Yours sincerely,

Helen

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Emmaus
Christian College

PLEASE RETURN TO STUDENT SERVICES BY THE DUE DATE

Return to: Student Services

Form Due: Wednesday 1 April 2020

(Please note: Brooklyn Park students will be offered supervision at South Plympton)

Request for Supervision Services at Emmaus Christian College – Week 11

I, _____ declare that our family has no Carer at home to supervise children during Week 11, due to our employment in Essential Services.

Parent Signature: _____

Following the above declaration, I/we request supervision for my child/ren as follows:

Days requiring supervision:

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday

Names and Year Levels of children requiring care:

Name: _____ Year Level: _____

Name: _____ Year Level: _____

Name: _____ Year Level: _____

Name: _____ Year Level: _____