



GBW:vt

Friday, 23 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

This morning, NSW Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant declared the COVID-19 outbreak in Greater Sydney a “**national emergency**”. Today’s news that most residents of Blacktown and Cumberland Local Government Areas can no longer leave these areas brings home the seriousness of this situation. It is important that **we all work together to keep our school communities safe**.

Supervision can only be provided at school for families who need this support. This is limited to the children of essential workers, vulnerable students, or those who are not at home and have no other options for supervision of their children due to *essential* work responsibilities.

You can find COVID-19 case locations [here](#). As there have been many case locations in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, it is important that you check this information regularly.

I want to reiterate in the strongest terms that if your child or family needs some additional support at this time, your school is here to help. This includes people experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19: please reach out to your child’s school for assistance. Information is also available on your school’s website.

Thanks again for your support in these difficult times. Please stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G B Whitby', written over a white background.

Gregory B Whitby AM KSG FACE FACEL
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

Bethany Centre 470 Church Street Parramatta NSW 2150
Locked Bag 4 North Parramatta NSW 1750
9840 5600 www.parra.catholic.edu.au