

10 August 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

Saturday evening (8 August), Our Lady of Mercy College (OLMC) Parramatta informed its community that the college would be closed today, Monday 10 August after being informed by NSW that a student had tested positive to COVID-19. Here is OLMC Parramatta's [message to the community](#).

While OLMC Parramatta is not a Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) school, we are aware that there are some CEDP schools with connections to OLMC, including siblings who attend St Patrick's Primary Guildford. It is of the utmost importance that all of us follow the advice of medical professionals closely in these times.

OLMC Parramatta students and staff have been directed to self-isolate until receiving further advice from NSW Health or communication from the school. The college is working closely with NSW Health to identify all close contacts. It will also undergo 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;
- 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;
- 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; or
- have been directed to self-isolate by medical professionals.

The health and safety of our school community are our highest priority. We will continue to keep you updated.

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. 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