



Howayek Providence Limited trading as
MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

23-25 Alice Street Harris Park NSW 2150; Tel (02) 9633 6600 Fax (02) 9689 1662
Email: admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au Web: www.mchf.nsw.edu.au
ABN: 89 623 472 177

24th January 2022

Welcome to a New School Year

Dear Parents / Guardians

I welcome you to the 2022 academic year. It is an exciting time as our students start or return to their school journey. We will start this year with a layered approach to COVID-smart measures that have been developed in partnership with NSW Health to help minimise the transmissions at school. The health and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our priority and these measures are designed to help to keep our school open and our students learning in the classroom. I hope that it will be a blessed year for all at the community of MCHF.

As we commence the year there are a few matters to draw to your attention:

- The theme for 2022 is 'The Best Me I Can Be' – the focus is for students to take ownership of their learning to become independent and reflective.
- Students must be in summer uniform
- Any student with an inappropriate haircut or incorrect uniform will be asked to remain at home.
- First day of Term 1 for students is below:
 - Year 7 students commence Monday 31st January
 - Years 1-6, 8-12 commence on Tuesday 1st February
 - Kindy commence on Wednesday 2nd February for half day (including Thursday and Friday)

2021 HSC Results

- Our HSC results this year were exceptional, and our College was ranked as the most improved in the State. Congratulations to all the students and to their teachers and parents.

2021	Name	ATAR
DUX	Jason Chakti	98.55
	Celine Moussa	97.65
	Ashton Tannous	97.20
	Celine Harb	96.50
	Brytney Al-Saiah	95.30
	Kristina Ishak	94.90
	Simon Zaiter	93.75
	Briana Mekary	92.40
	Chanelle Coorey	92.05
	Lana Chamchoum	90.90
	Adrian Harb	89.50

	Mariella Mikhael	88.35
	Elissa El Katrib	88.00
	Christina Kazzi	87.95
	Margaret Sabat	87.60
	Marina Akik	86.25
	Anna Maria Kobti	86.05
	Christina Geagea	85.65
	Ashley O'Brien	85.55
	Lauren Al Hage	83.95
	Raymond Hadchiti	83.10
	Reina Layoun	82.60
	Roula Abou-Chedid	82.35
	Joseph Samya	82.00
	Nina Bousaid	81.85
	Charbel Moussa	81.25
	Chelsea Elias	81.05

COVID Return to School

Regarding the return to school, the following COVID guidelines and restrictions will apply:

- Hygiene and Safety
 - Social distancing must be maintained as much as possible.
 - Continued use of good hygiene, enhanced cleaning, and good air flow in learning spaces.
 - We strongly encourage our students to consider vaccination when eligible.
 - Students will be separated during break times according to Year cohorts where possible.
- Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT)
 - RATs will be issued for all staff and students to test twice a week at home (Mondays and Wednesdays) for the first 4 weeks of the term. Students will be required to test before commencing on their first day.
 - The College Staff will not be administering RATs to students.
 - Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test and not return until they are symptom free.
 - If your child tests positive to a RAT test, the following must be done:
 - Record the positive RAT through Service NSW
 - Notify the College of the positive RAT (or PCR test) as soon as possible. The College will notify the community when there is a positive case in our College.
 - Follow the NSW Health advice to isolate for 7 days
 - Close contacts of a household person who has tested positive may attend the College but must have a PCR test (Day 1) followed by a RAT daily (Days 2-7).
 - Negative results do not need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.
- Mask Wearing
 - Secondary students, staff and all visitors must wear masks in indoor settings
 - Primary students are encouraged to wear masks in indoor settings.
- Parents/Guardians and Visitors
 - Only fully vaccinated visitors essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing can come on College grounds.
 - For the first 4 weeks of the term, no parent/guardian and visitors will be permitted on College grounds except for:
 - Volunteers or staff operating the canteen

- Visitors supporting school operations and curriculum delivery
- Allied health partners for the wellbeing of students
- Only two parents/guardians are permitted on College grounds for Kindy and Year 7 first day.
- Afternoon Pick Up
 - Staggered afternoon pick up will continue from 2021:

2:40pm	Kindy, Year 1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bus students go to the Primary Hall ● Kindy and Year 1 Students: Collect from Infants Playground (Gate 3) ● Year 3 and 4 Students: Collect from Primary Playground (Gate 2)
2:50pm	Year 2, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bus students go to the Primary Hall ● Year 2 Students: Collect from Infants Playground (Gate 3) ● Year 5 and 6 Students: Collect from Primary Playground (Gate 2)
3:10pm	All Secondary Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Secondary Students: Collected from Primary Playground (Gate 2) ● Bus students are to go to the Grass Area (Primary Playground in Wet Weather)

Parent Association and Volunteers

- There will be a **Parent Association Annual General Meeting and 2022 Elections on Tuesday 15th February 2pm** in the Primary Hall. All members, including new members, are invited to attend.
- Volunteers will be permitted to assist at the College (such as Parent Association, reading lessons, supervising students etc.) if they are fully vaccinated. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to supervise students in the classroom. Volunteers are required to complete the Volunteer Induction form and submit required documentation prior to commencing volunteer work at the College. [Click here to access the Volunteer Induction Form.](#)

While this is not going to be a normal start to the school year, we know that being together in the classroom is the most effective way for students to learn and grow. Your child's relationship with their teacher is important.

I look forward to working with you for the betterment of your child/ren's education.



Sr Margaret Ghosn
Principal

2022 THEME

The Best Me I Can Be



TAKING OWNERSHIP
of my learning to
become **REFLECTIVE**
and **INDEPENDENT**



COVID-smart measures for schools

Information for **parents and students**



Being together in a classroom is the most effective way for students to learn and grow. Since COVID-19 remains a relatively mild illness for most children, we're committed to return to school safely in 2022. We will support this through the following measures.



WATCH FOR SYMPTOMS

- If your child is unwell, even with mild symptoms you must keep them home and get them tested. If they display any symptoms they should take a PCR test (nose and throat swab) or rapid antigen test (RAT).
- If symptoms continue your child should not come to school, even if they get a negative rapid antigen test result. Your child may return when they get a negative PCR test result and have no symptoms.



VACCINATIONS

- All staff on school sites must be fully vaccinated.
- We strongly encourage all students and their families to get vaccinated. Children aged 5 to 11 can now get vaccinated. Parents are encouraged to book their child in for a vaccination at the first available opportunity.
- Once eligible, all adults are encouraged to get booster shots.



TESTING

Before the start of term 1

- Rapid antigen tests will be provided to all staff and students through their schools. Schools will inform their local communities on how these kits can be collected.
- All staff and students are asked to take a rapid antigen test twice a week and get a negative result before attending school. Your child's school will provide advice on when tests should be taken.

At the start of term 1

- For the first 4 weeks, students and staff should take a rapid antigen test **twice a week on the morning before attending school**. Test kits will continue to be supplied by schools.
- Students who are household close contacts must isolate at home for 7 days.



COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES

- If your child has no symptoms and there is a positive case in their class, year or other grouping, they can continue to attend school in line with NSW Health advice.
- Staff and students who get a positive rapid antigen test result must register it on service.nsw.gov.au or the **Service NSW app** as soon as possible.
- Staff and students who receive a positive rapid antigen or PCR test result must tell their school as soon as possible, and follow NSW Health advice.
- Schools will regularly communicate to parents about the presence and impact of COVID-19 in their community. Parents should expect to be provided with details of any impacted year groups or cohorts.



VENTILATION

- Fresh air is the most effective form of ventilation to minimise risk of transmission. Where natural ventilation is limited, schools will consider alternatives, such as air purifiers.
- Using outdoor spaces will continue to be encouraged.



MASKS

- All primary and secondary school staff will be required to wear masks indoors.
- No vented masks or cloth masks should be worn. If required, surgical masks will be available at schools.
- Secondary school students are required to wear masks.
- Primary school students are strongly recommended to wear well-fitted masks indoors.



ACTIVITIES

- COVID-19 will be considered in all risk assessments. Guidance will be provided to schools on applying appropriate safeguards across a range of activities.
- Parents will be made aware of the risk of exposure and will need to give their permission for participation in extra-curricular, out of school hours or off-site activities



STUDENT COHORTING

- Schools will continue using cohort arrangements and consider staggered drop-off and pick ups, break times, playground and canteen access.
- Depending on the school, cohort size and timetables, cohorts may be based on classes, years or stages.



VISITORS

- Visitors on school sites should be kept to a minimum to support essential school activities or student needs. Visitors will be required to wear a mask indoors and will be encouraged to wear a mask outdoors if they cannot maintain physical distancing.
- Schools are advised to allow a maximum of 2 parents or carers per student onto school grounds for Kindergarten orientation or Year 7 transition.



KEEPING SCHOOLS OPEN

- Parents are asked to respect the rules at their child's school to help keep the community safe.
- Schools will do everything they can to maintain continuity of face-to-face learning including the use of more casual staff.
- Schools will need to make localised staffing decisions to ensure appropriate supervision can be maintained.
- Schools will not be able to guarantee particular staff for any cohort and students may not have their regular teacher for a class.



LEARNING FROM HOME

- We will continue to monitor the situation and where face-to-face learning is not possible, learning from home options will be supported for short periods.

For more info, visit nsw.gov.au/covid-19

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring school operations continue while prioritising the safety and wellbeing of students and school staff.

