



30 April 2026

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

2026 Term 2 Week 1 College Update

Term 2

I hope all students and families enjoyed the term break, and that the holidays were an opportunity to rest, relax and recharge in preparation for Term 2.

Attendance

To assist with ensuring a smooth start to the term, the following information is essential:

- Irrespective of the reasons for absences, non-attendance affects student outcomes
- There is no 'safe' threshold for absences; every day counts, declines in achievement are evident with any level of absence, and the impact of absence increases with the number of absences
- Lesson 1 begins at 8:50am (students should move to their Lesson 1 classroom at 8:45am)

Mother's Day Community Morning

We are very pleased to invite all mothers and mother figures to join us for our Mother's Day Community Morning on Friday 8 May. Please see this [invitation](#) for further details and click here to [RSVP](#) before Friday 1 May.

Term 2 Student Learner Conversations

Student Learner Conversations take place on Monday 4 May from 1:45pm to 7:45pm (face-to-face in Caleruega Hall) and on Tuesday 12 May from 4:00pm to 7:00pm (via telephone).

Students must be in attendance and are expected to be involved in these conversations. The Student Learner Conversation is not a time to discuss, in detail, major learning difficulties – this may best be left for a separate occasion where there is more time available.

How can you make the Student Learner Conversation a useful exercise for you, your child and the teachers? (Source: Locke, JY 2020. The Bonsai Student)

Step 1: Review SEQTA Engage

- Read your child's assessment task results and feedback on [SEQTA Engage](#) to check whether there are any points you would like to have clarified. See the Parent Handbook (p. 25) for information non how to access SEQTA.
- Consider whether there were any factors you know of which may have influenced your child's ability to apply effort and do well over Term 1.
- Write a list of things you feel you need to let the teacher(s) know about.

Step 2: Consider the important questions you wish to ask

Prepare a brief list of questions that are important to you so you can be sure to cover them in the Student Learner Conversation, although keep in mind that time will be limited (7 minutes). Depending on your child's age and your knowledge of their personality, questions you may wish to consider include:

- Can my child work independently? When you set them a task, are they able to go ahead and do it, or do you need to give them further instruction?
- Do they complete tasks without regular attention or reassurance?
- Do you think they are motivated by personal drive or praise?
- Do they work well with others? Can they lead and be led in group work?
- How do they take constructive criticism?
- How much homework should they be doing at night? Are you satisfied they are managing it well?

Step 3: At the Student Learner Conversation

Keep an open mind. Try to approach Student Learner Conversations with an open attitude.

Let the teacher have the first opportunity to speak and let you know if there is anything specific they want to tell you about your child.

When it's your turn to speak, use the list of questions and topics you have prepared. While you may wish to talk about your child's assessment task results, your child's application to their work is more important (Locke 2020).

Note: Students will be dismissed at 1:00pm on Monday 4 May and at the usual dismissal time of 3:15pm on Tuesday 12 May. The Monica Farrelly Atrium will close at **4:00pm** on both days.

Winter Uniform

All students are expected to show pride in themselves and the College by meeting requirements relating to uniform and presentation. Please note that in Term 2 the winter uniform is to be worn, with the blazer to be worn to and from school when students are wearing formal uniform. Skirts should be worn to the knee and shirts should be tucked in. The PE jacket is not to be worn with the formal winter uniform. I would appreciate the assistance of parents in ensuring students are well presented and representing themselves and the College with pride.

Concussion Policy

The Australian Concussion Guidelines have been developed by the Australian Sports Commission and Australian Institute of Sport in response to growing concern about sport-related concussion and potential health ramifications, as well as the impact concussion can have on student learning and attendance. To meet the guidelines, Cabra Dominican College has developed a [Concussion Policy](#), outlining how the school responds to and manages concussion.

The [Concussion Policy](#) applies to all students at Cabra, and is intended to provide direction to parents, caregivers, staff and volunteers. It is intended to assist in the management of concussion and does not replace the need to seek medical assessment. It relates to concussion experienced in school-related activities, as well as students who might be concussed in club or elite level sport, who then are impacted in terms of their learning and school attendance.

- **What is Concussion?** Concussion is a brain injury that affects the way a person thinks, feels and remembers things, and it can affect students in a variety of ways.
- **What causes Concussion?** Concussion occurs through a collision where there is ultimately a force to the head or brain. All concussions are serious.

Key Points | Parents and Caregivers

1. Concussion Incident and Diagnosis:

- a. Please report concussion incident details to the Student Services Manager via studentservices@cabra.catholic.edu.au as soon as practicable
- b. Student Services Manager will:
 - Receive and record incident details
 - Work with parents to ensure prompt assessment by a health care practitioner
 - Notify relevant stakeholders including the Mentor Teacher

2. Return to Learning:

- a. Returning to school should take priority before returning to College Sport.
- b. Return to learning commences with a short period of rest of 24 – 48 hours.
- c. Parents must provide a medical clearance and doctor certificate that clears the student for return to school.
- d. Should part-time schooling need to be actioned whilst the student recovers, parents must meet with the Learning & Teaching team to establish a support plan.

3. Return to Sport:

- a. Students must be symptom free for 14 days (at rest) before return to contact training, and not return to any competitive contact sport until a minimum of 21 days from the time of concussion.
- b. To be clear, that is not 14 days from the time of concussion. It is 14 days from when the student becomes symptom-free.
- c. The Student Services Manager liaises with parents to receive and upload health care practitioner documentation that clears the student for a return to sport.

Parents are asked to familiarise themselves with the [Concussion Policy](#) (available in SEQTA via "Documents") and to be alert to behaviour that is unusual or out of character, or when students exhibit signs of disorientation, clumsiness or loss of balance. If you have any questions regarding the Concussion Policy, please contact me via jmccabe@cabra.catholic.edu.au

Physical Education and Performing Arts Uniform Requirements

Students should only be wearing PE Uniform on days when they have the following timetabled lessons:

- Year 7 – 12 Physical Education
- Year 7 – 8 Performing Arts – Dance/Drama
- Year 9 – 12 Dance

In Year 7 and 8 Performing Arts – Dance/Drama and Year 9 – 12 Dance lessons, we recognise that students need to be able to move freely and hope that the PE Uniform will help students participate with confidence and facilitate successful experiences in the subject. Students in Year 9 – 12 Dance must purchase and wear the Dance t-shirt from the Uniform Shop, wear ankle length black leggings and half or full sole contemporary shoes.

If you have any further questions about uniform requirements in these two subjects, please contact:

Name	Subject Area	Email
Maddison Wheatley-Harris	Leader of Learning – Health and Physical Education	mwheatleyharris@cabra.catholic.edu.au
Giselle Becker	Leader of Learning – Performing Arts	gbecker@cabra.catholic.edu.au

140 Years Gala Ball | Saturday 23 May 6:00 – 11:00pm

Join us for a night to remember as we celebrate 140 years of Cabra Dominican College. Enjoy a delicious three-course dinner accompanied by a two-hours drinks package, all set within the stunning Wolf Blass Event Centre at Morphettville Racecourse. The night will come alive with entertainment from popular band The Uptown Seeds.

This will be a perfect occasion for parents, caregivers, alumni and staff to gather and celebrate together, with tables of 10 available. Secure your ticket now via this Humanitix link: [140 Years Gala Ball](#)

Silent Auction

Do you own a business that provides goods or a service that could be donated as a Silent Auction item for our 140 years Gala Ball in May? The Parent and Community Committee (PCC) are seeking the support of local, family businesses through the donation of goods, services, vouchers or unique experiences suitable for inclusion in our Silent Auction.

Your business will be **prominently acknowledged** at the event and across the college community. Please email Anna Garcia (Marketing and Communications Manager) via agarcia@cabra.catholic.edu.au if you would like to donate. Funds raised will go to the 140 years **Together we write the story** fundraising campaign.

For more details, visit the College Website at this link: [Together, we write the story. | Cabra Dominican College](#)

Drop Off and Pick Up Reminders

Student safety is our shared priority. Please remember to adhere to road safety rules and traffic signs, and to be patient as large numbers of students enter and exit College grounds, cross roads and walk/cycle near the College.

Please adhere to the following safety rules:

- Observe school zone speed limits (25km/hr limit applies when students are present within a signed school zone, i.e., where zigzag lines are marked on the road)
- Not parking in "No Standing" zones
- Respecting local neighbours and their right to access their driveways
- Ensuring that students exit cars onto the footpath
- Keep disability parking spaces available for those who require them – and ensure the "No Parking" zones in front of these spaces remains clear

Please also note that City of Mitcham Parking Inspectors and Compliance Officers regularly monitor the streets surrounding the College and in particular, the "No Standing" zone on Eaton Street. Any breaches of the rules regarding this "No Standing" zone observed by a Compliance Officer may result in the issue of an **expiation notice**. Parents are required to behave respectfully at all times, and this applies to words, tone and body language. We expect parents to model appropriate behaviours for their children and to comply with any traffic rules and traffic management system(s) in place. Please note City of Mitcham reserves the right to contact SAPOL if parents are disrespectful towards a Parking Inspector, or if they are deemed to be creating a safety hazard on Eaton Street.

Furthermore, students should not be congregating in the nearby Woolworths or Big W shopping centre prior to school but instead should be making their way to school directly and promptly.

On the Horizon

Please see some general dates below for upcoming events. If we have not already, we will write to you with details of the below events if they affect your child.

Date	Event
Monday 4 May	Year 7 – 12 Student Learner Conversations (1:46 – 7:45pm, Caleruega Hall) Student Dismissal 1:00pm
Wednesday 6 May	Year 7 Liturgy (Lesson 3)
Friday 8 May	Mother's Day Community Prayer and Breakfast (Chapel and Monica Farrelly Atrium, 7:45am)
Friday 8 May	Year 10 Career and Employment Expo (12:45 – 3:15pm)
Tuesday 12 May	Year 7 – 12 Student Learner Conversations (4:00 – 7:00pm, Telephone)
Wednesday 13 May	Year 8 Liturgy (Lesson 3)
Wednesday 13 May	Year 10 Periods, Pain and Endometriosis Program Talk (St Dominic's Hall and TSMC, 10:45am – 12:15pm)

The College Calendar is located on SEQTA Engage and the [College Website](#). Please feel most welcome to contact us if you have any questions about this information or if you have any concerns about your child's progress.

Yours sincerely,

Jarrad McCabe

Deputy Principal: People, Culture and Operations