



ST ALOYSIUS

CATHOLIC COLLEGE

1st July, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

CONJUNCTIVITIS

There is currently an outbreak of conjunctivitis amongst students in your child's class at St Aloysius Catholic College. Your child may have contracted the condition. Please examine your child's eyes for signs of this highly contagious disease. Symptoms usually last two to three weeks. Your child will need to stay at home until a medical practitioner treats the eyes and the discharge from their eyes has completely ceased.

Conjunctivitis is a swelling of the tissue that lines the eyelids and eyeball (conjunctiva). It often feels like there is something in the eye. The eye may be sore or itchy and the eyelids may stick together with yellow pus. Conjunctivitis may be caused by viral or bacterial infections or allergens. Chemicals like sprays, household cleaners, chlorine or perfumes can also irritate the eyes.

Common among children, conjunctivitis is very contagious and easily caught through contact with either droplets from the eyes, nose or throat of an infected person or contaminated fingers or objects. A person is infectious as long as there is a discharge from their eyes.

Symptoms

- Gritty, itchy eyes
- Irritation and redness
- Excessive tears in the eyes
- A discharge with pus
- Dry, yellowish crust forms on the eyelids often after sleep
- Swelling of the eyelids
- Intolerance to looking at sunlight

Treatment

Drops or ointment as prescribed by a medical practitioner. The infection usually responds rapidly to treatment within 48 hours.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Gill
Co Principal

Joseph Sandric
Co Principal