Dear [name]

Thank you for your letter regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccinations at [school].

I acknowledge that you have concerns about coronavirus vaccinations and that you have advised [school] that you do not want your child vaccinated against COVID-19.

[school] is absolutely committed to the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

We receive regular guidance from our governing authority Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL) to ensure that our school practices are aligned with health advice from the Australian and Victorian governments to limit the spread of coronavirus.

At the present time, the [Victorian Government’s advice](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine) is that:

* COVID-19 vaccines are free, safe and voluntary. The more people who choose to get vaccinated, the greater the protection for those vaccinated and the whole community.
* The best person to talk to if you have concerns about your health and being vaccinated against COVID-19 is your doctor/general practitioner (GP).

Consistent with this advice, COVID-19 vaccinations are not currently mandated in Victorian Catholic schools. I would echo the advice’s recommendation about speaking to a doctor or general practitioner regarding any concerns. Comprehensive information on the COVID-19 vaccines is also available from the [Australian Government](https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/campaign).

[school] will keep the school community up to date should the advice on vaccinations from the Australian or Victorian government change.

I thank you for your support over the last 18 months as we have worked through the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

Yours sincerely

[principal]

[school]