



Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School

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September 21, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

At Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each and every day.

To enhance our existing absence check procedure, we are introducing **a new, more efficient** student absence reporting system called **SchoolConnects SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

We will be piloting this system at Vincent J. Maloney

With **SafeArrival**, you are asked to report your child's absence (in advance or before morning bell time) using one of these 3 convenient methods:

1. **Call the automated interactive telephone system via a toll-free number 1-844-818-9908 to report an absence.**
2. **Log into the website, gsac.schoolconnects.com, to access the SafeArrival website where an account can be set up to report absences.**
3. **Set up a SafeArrival account then download the SafeArrival app to quickly and conveniently report absences from your mobile device.**

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

In addition, we will use the **SchoolConnects** automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent and the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact numbers. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts after 20 minutes, office staff will follow up.

By reporting your child absent in advance using the **SafeArrival** toll-free number, SafeArrival website or **SafeArrival** app, you will NOT receive these calls.

We will start using our new absence reporting system on Monday, **October 3, 2016**. Parents with email addresses on file at the school will receive an invitation to log in to the Parent Portal and activate their account.

As of Monday, October 3, 2016 all reporting of absences in advance should go through the SafeArrival website, mobile app, or toll-free number. Please do not contact the school directly to report an absence in advance.

If you have children attending other Greater St. Albert schools, please continue to report absences using the existing procedures for those schools.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we implement this new system.