



14 March 2022

Dear Parents & Caregivers

COVID-19 Update 2022 – No. 8 (as of 14 March 2022)

I trust that you enjoyed a restful weekend, and the new week has begun well for you and your family. I write to again update our community about recent developments in relation to COVID-19.

CURRENT SITUATION

The College has continued to experience a gradual increase in the number of students testing positive for COVID-19 across both campuses. Except for another class in the Preparatory School, the number of students and staff deemed to be school based close contacts remains relatively small.

Please note that those identified as school based close contacts are always formally advised in writing and informed about the current isolation protocols by 6.00pm in the evening.

CLOSE CONTACT ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

I would like to once again acknowledge and thank you for the ongoing support, especially now that we have moved into the new *very high caseload* settings. The following explanation is intended to help clarify the new arrangements about the way different types of close contacts can quarantine. As such, if your child is a **close contact of a COVID-19 case outside the home** (e.g., school or casual social contact) the following can apply:

- If your child has **no symptoms**, they must isolate for seven days but **can attend school** or some school-based extracurricular activities. (School attendance permitted.)
- If your child **has symptoms**, they must get tested and isolate for seven days. (No school attendance permitted.)
- If your **child becomes positive**, they and the rest of the household must isolate for seven days (No school attendance permitted.)
- If anyone in your household has had COVID-19, they will not be considered a close contact again for eight weeks following recovery, unless they have symptoms or are immunocompromised.

SELF-REPORTING PORTAL FOR COVID-19

It is vitally important that parents and caregivers inform the school if their child tests positive for COVID-19.

To support our planning for your child's classroom attendance, please continue to notify the College if your child returns a negative PCR/ RAT result, after:

- being identified as a close contact (Day 1 test to return to school as an asymptomatic close contact), and/or
- being identified as a household close contact (Day 7 test to conclude quarantine).

Self-Reporting Portal for COVID-19

To help streamline this process a [COVID-19 Self-reporting Form for Students and Staff members](#) has been developed by Catholic Education WA (CEWA).

From Tuesday 15 March 2022, parents and caregivers are asked to inform the College of their child's positive or negative COVID result via this [LINK](#). The information will go directly to the Principal, prompting our COVID response.

The link will also be made available on the College website.

The processes for reporting all other (non-COVID-19 related) student absences remain the same.

Please do not underestimate the importance of informing the College of a positive COVID case. Your actions will ensure the risk to others is minimised and that we do our very best to limit the spread of the virus across our community.

Thank you for your continuing understanding and cooperation as we take the necessary steps to keep our school community safe.

If you have queries or concerns regarding your child, please contact me. If you have health concerns, please contact WA Health on 1300 316 555 or at ncovcontact@health.wa.gov.au.

With regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Mills