

2 February 2022

Dear Parents

The latest recommendations from Queensland Health in relation to students returning to school from **Monday 7 February – Friday 4 March** are included in the **Table below for the Junior School and Senior School**:

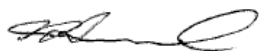
**Queensland Government’s ‘Back to School’ COVID-19-safe Plan at Whitsunday Anglican School**

<b>Measures to Implement</b>	<b>Junior School</b>	<b>Senior School</b>
<b>Limiting visitors on school grounds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In the case of the Junior School, this excludes parents of our Kindergarten children and Preparatory Year and Year 1 students who may walk their child into these areas in the Junior School and also pick them up from their classrooms.</li><li>• As a result, parents of students in Years 2 to Year 6 are asked to <b>reconsider</b> the need to walk their child into school.</li><li>• Parents of students new to the school may continue to walk their child into school at the beginning of the day for the week commencing 7 February.</li><li>• If you believe that it is necessary for the well-being of your child for you to walk with them, then please look to meet with the Head of Junior School as soon as possible.</li><li>• One-on-one ‘beginning of the year’ chats with teachers are welcome and encouraged; however, follow all COVID-19 guidelines.</li><li>• Until further notice, we will not have parent volunteers in classrooms.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parents of new students who would like to settle their students in the Senior School on Monday 7 February (or their first day), are open to do so. We do ask that from that point on, parents limit their visits to the School and look to make appointments through the Senior School office if necessary.</li><li>• It is advisable that all parents not be on campus and drop off and collect their Senior School child from the School’s designated access points.</li></ul>
<b>Face masks for students</b>	<p><b>In Years 3-6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is highly recommended that students in Years 3-6 wear a mask when they are not able to physically distance themselves from their classmates and peers. The classroom teachers will manage their classrooms and remind the students when it is appropriate not to wear a mask i.e. when seated in class. However, students may choose to do so.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All Senior School students, including those who are under 12 years of age, <b>must wear a mask</b> unless they are seated or are able to maintain a 1.5 metre distance from others.</li><li>• If you feel your child cannot wear a mask due to exceptional circumstances, please contact the Senior School office.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are a number of exceptions to having a student wear a mask, and once again I ask that you look to meet with the Head of Junior School as soon as possible to discuss this further if you believe this relates to your child.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Managing the flow of children and families: Kindergarten and Preparatory Year ONLY</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kindergarten has signage asking that only 2 parents enter the foyer at a time at the beginning of the day and at the end of the day and that they are to check-in with the QR code provided.</li> <li>• With the larger cohort of students in the Preparatory Year and Year 1, and with no need to sign-in, parents are asked to be cognisant of their physical distancing in and around the Preparatory Precinct and Year 1 classrooms.</li> <li>• For both Kindergarten and the Preparatory Year and Year 1, please do not congregate in groups while waiting in the afternoons.</li> <li>• For families utilising OSHC, please check-in with the QR code.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Suspension of School Camps, Excursions, assemblies and large gatherings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the duration of this COVID-19-safe plan, all school camps, excursions, assemblies and large gatherings (including though not limited to: Junior School and Senior School assemblies, Commissioning assembly, carnivals, Cum Laude assembly, etc) are to be suspended.</li> <li>• All Co-curricular trainings practices and local competitions will continue once the co-curricular schedule is completed (<b>from 14 February</b>, unless advised directly by co-ordinator). All will need to adhere to the COVID-19 regulations of mask wearing, sanitising and symptom checking as has been advised.</li> </ul> <p><b>Co-curricular Training / Practices Indoors and Outdoors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please refrain from sending students to training/practice if they have COVID symptoms. Coaches will assess students for symptoms and if they deem that there is/are student/s with symptoms, students will be asked to sit out of activities and parents to collect. It is required that parents seek a RAT and inform school of result.</li> <li>• No masks are required to be worn outdoors, unless 1.5m social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks are still required to be carried by our students.</li> <li>• When co-curricular activities are indoors, spectators (parents and the like) are not encouraged to be on School site and drop off and collection of students to occur in the designated drop off/pick up areas. Though if on site, spectators must wear masks if standing though if seated and can maintain 1.5m distance from others, spectators do not need to wear masks.</li> <li>• It is encouraged that hand sanitising occurs at the start of activities, and at the end.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masks are required to be worn when entering and leaving the facility though not while performing strenuous activity (the training itself).</li> <li>• Masks are not required in a band practice situation if 1.5m distance between others can be maintained. Masks are required for those instrumentalists that do not require the mouth to be used, though only if they cannot maintain 1.5m distance. It is recommended that a mask should be worn for piano, drums etc., as good practice.</li> <li>• Teachers/tutors/coaches are to be wearing masks at all times, where practical, especially where 1.5m cannot be maintained between others.</li> </ul>
<b>Limit the number of activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large group face to face parent – teacher meetings/interviews are advised not to happen during this time.</li> <li>• External visitors/shows/contractors are advised not to occur during this time. This will mean that all school visitors or activities will not occur during this time unless it is deemed critical e.g. No School photographers, No School contracted educational shows or workshops – yLead etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Vaccinations</b>	The current advice is, that students of all ages can attend school regardless of their vaccination status.
<b>General</b>	<p>As with all visitors to the School, please adhere to the information that has been provided to parents through communiques from the School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear masks.</li> <li>• Maintain 1.5 metres.</li> <li>• Check-in with the QR code where applicable.</li> <li>• Sanitise where appropriate.</li> <li>• Limit your visitation to the school.</li> <li>• Stay at home and do not come on campus and get tested if students have COVID symptoms.</li> <li>• Continue to inform the school of positive tests and/or close contact status.</li> <li>• Continue to adhere to the Queensland Health isolation regulations and COVID-19 protocols.</li> </ul>

Kind regards



Jamie Novosel  
Deputy Principal (Pastoral – Head of Senior School)



Mick Martin  
Head of Junior School