



## **Covid-19 Update 14 February 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now into our third week of term, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students and families for following our Covid-safe guidelines and protocols that we have in place to meet the requirements set out in the ACT Health Guidelines for Schools. The health and safety of all members of our community remain our priority.

### **Distribution of Week 3 and 4 Rapid Antigen Tests:**

- All students will receive two sealed envelopes containing their allocation for Weeks 3 and 4, tomorrow, Tuesday 14 February, during Period 6 from their PT teacher. Year 11 and 12 students who have a study line at this time are asked to remain onsite for this lesson so as to receive their allocation from the PT teacher. They will not be able to access their tests early.
- At this point in time, the College has not received any details as to whether the provision of RATs by the ACT Government will extend beyond Week 4.
- A list has been kept by PT teachers of those students who have been absent when the tests have been distributed. Students who have been absent when the tests have been distributed are able to collect their allocated RATs from the Student Office.
- Students have been given clear instructions that the tests are to be taken home and given to their parents/carers as soon as they get home. They will also be reminded that the tests need to be treated with care and respect.
- I would urge you to continue to have similar discussions with your student.
- As I have mentioned previously, the use of these tests is not compulsory, as was indicated by the Education Minister, and the College will not be asking families to report a negative test result. These tests form one part of the overall Covid-safety measures that are in place at the College.
- At no time will College staff perform a RAT on a student. If a student is unwell, they will be asked to attend First Aid, where their parent/carer will be contacted and asked to collect them. The decision as to whether the student should be tested for Covid-19 lies with their parent/carer based on the current Health guidelines.

### **Notification of a Positive Test result or Close Contact:**

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- A requirement of the provision of the tests is that the College reports to the ACT Government on the number of positive Covid-19 cases notified to the school on a weekly basis. At no time will specific student or family details be provided.
- Students who are isolating, and who are well enough to do so, will be able to access their learning through Daranet and their class OneNotes. Class Learning Planners will provide at least two weeks of learning activities and planning and will provide students at home with the required advice regarding their learning until they are able to return to school. Teachers are not expected to deliver both in-person classes and online meetings outside of the content provided through OneNotes, Daranet and the Learning Planners.

#### **Informing families of a positive case:**

- In line with the revised reporting requirements in the ACT, schools will not be listed as exposure sites as they were in 2021.
- Where a Covid-positive case at Daramanal leads to students and staff being assessed as at risk of exposure, families of those impacted (year group cohorts), will be informed via email about what they are required to do under ACT Health requirements.
- If the exposure is considered low risk, staff and students will continue to be able to attend school while closely monitoring for Covid symptoms.

#### **Students with Covid-19 Symptoms:**

- Please keep your student at home when they are sick or unwell.
- Students who are unwell must not attend the College and should stay home and are encouraged to get tested using the RAT provided.
- While at school, students experiencing symptoms compatible with Covid-19 (e.g. fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath) will be directed to First Aid and will be isolated with appropriate supervision and collected by a parent/carer as soon as possible.

Thank you again to all of our families for your support in ensuring the safety of our community at this time.

Best wishes  
Rachel Davies

