

# 17 August 2020

# **COVID-19 UPDATE**

Due to the revised COVID-19 guidelines related to school settings as advised today, 17 August 2020 by Dr Kerry Chant, the NSW Chief Medical officer, I advise the following changes to the College's program.

NSW Department of Health requires schools to:

- exclude students and staff with even mild symptoms of COVID-19
- encourage immediate testing for any symptomatic child(ren) or staff
- prohibit return to school for anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 until a copy of a negative COVID test result has been provided
- ensure that adults maintain physical distancing at all time
- ensure good hand hygiene at all times (e.g. upon entry to the school, entry to the classroom and upon exit of the classroom)
- limit activities that result in the mixing of students and staff from schools from the local area (e.g. local inter-school sports competitions).

## JUNIOR AND SENIOR SPORT AND OTHER CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITES

The Independent Sporting Association (ISA) has cancelled the remainder of the Winter Sports competition including the Athletics season. As a result, St Pius x College has cancelled all Junior and Senior inter-school sports competition for the remainder of Term 3. No inter-school face-to-face Debating or Chess will proceed.

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

Group singing and the use of wind instruments (Woodwind and Brass) are not permitted and as a result the College has temporarily ceased the Orchestra, Concert Bands, Jazz Bands and Choirs for the remainder of Term 3.

## GENERAL

The College already has in place many other COVID-19 safety practices and I reiterate the following:

- High hygiene practices in place such as the use of sanitiser and hand washing throughout the school
- Additional cleaning throughout the school day
- Additional cleaning in exam rooms before and after HSC Trial examinations
- No excursions, camps, tours
- No parents or non-essential visitors (canteen volunteers are permitted)
- No school related social activities such as dinners, dances or P & F functions
- No full school assemblies.

The College has revised its plans for the Year 12 Mass and Graduation and a letter was sent to Year 12 parents last week. I will continue to communicate with the St Pius X College community through Woodchatta with any further updates. Yours sincerely

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John Couani **Principal** 

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