



ST PIUS X COLLEGE

CHATSWOOD

8 July 2021

Dear parents and carers

This is the second communication that I have sent to parents and I thank parents for their feedback and support as we prepare for the commencement of online learning on **Tuesday 13 July**.

PREPARING YOUR SON FOR ONLINE LEARNING

In preparing your son for the return to school on Tuesday I ask parents to assist their son in ensuring the smooth transition to online learning.

- Students need to have their laptops charged each day and be logged on and ready for morning rollcall at 8.42am and be on time for each lesson as per their timetable and the portal.
- Students may collect any resources and equipment from their lockers on Monday 12 July from 10.00am – 3.00pm. Students may also visit the ICT Helpdesk (located in the gym) if they need any assistance with their laptop.
- Parents are encouraged to check on their son's attendance for each lesson.
- Any student who has been in a NSW COVID-19 case location as listed on the NSW Government website www.nsw.gov.au must follow the guidelines on the NSW Government website and must not attend school.
- If your son is unwell and unable to attend online classes, parents need to notify the College in the normal way by emailing studentmanagement@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or by calling the College on 9411 4733. Alternatively, parents may use the Portal to explain an absence <http://iwise.stpiusx.nsw.edu.au/igloo/portal>.
- Students must be fully aware of the College's Online Learning Plan and follow the instructions from their teachers and College staff.
- Your son's teachers will set work and assist students utilising our online learning programs and classes will be held on Microsoft TEAMS.
- There will be limited supervision for students of essential workers who must come to the school as I explained in my letter yesterday.

NEW PROTOCOLS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY NSW GOVERNMENT

The NSW Government has established new protocols and I share with you the regulations below from the NSW Government website. I share the link below with you: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families/schools-in-greater-sydney1#Masks3>

In particular, I emphasise the following from this link:

Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms should be sent home and should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free.

Masks and face coverings

While at school, masks or face coverings are required in all indoor settings for:

- *all students in Year 7 and above*
- *all staff in school settings.*

Some exemptions apply:

- *Staff are not required to wear a mask or face covering where it may affect the ability of a student or students to hear or engage with them, such as where students are hard of hearing.*

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- *As per the broader health advice, early childhood staff are exempt from wearing face masks when they are working directly with children. However, staff are recommended to wear masks or face coverings otherwise, whenever indoors.*
- *Masks or face coverings are not required to be worn by a staff member or student who has a physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, that makes wearing a mask unsuitable. For example, if they have a skin condition, an intellectual disability, autism or trauma, they are not required to wear a mask. Refer to [Face mask rules on the NSW Government website External link](#).*

Masks remain mandatory on public transport. This applies to students aged 13 years and over, and staff when travelling to and from school and during school excursions by public transport or by chartered or private transport services.

Visitors

Non-essential visitors are not permitted on school sites.

Parents and carers must follow their school's advice regarding changes to student drop off and pick up. This includes staying in the car when dropping off and picking up children if it is safe to do so. This does not apply to drop off and pick up from OOSHC as sign in and out procedures are required.

Parents should

- *follow the physical distancing advice for their local area and avoid gathering outside of school gates*
- *remain outside of school grounds (some exceptions may exist re SSP, vulnerable students or students with disabilities)*
- *adhere to mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the Service NSW QR code when entering the school.*

QR code sign-in process for all staff and visitors

The NSW Government have introduced mandatory QR codes across a range of additional settings, including schools. All staff and visitors permitted on school sites will be required to check in and check out using the QR codes.

School operations

Further advice will be provided about opportunity class exams.

- *Families to be encouraged to keep their children at home wherever possible but no child will be turned away from school.*
- *Canteens and uniform stores are not to operate.*
- *No community use arrangements.*
- *No community language schools.*
- *Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements.*

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

Again I offer the support of the College throughout this challenging time and if parents need further information or guidance please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate staff member.

It is my intention to continue writing to parents each day with any new information that comes to hand.

Yours sincerely



John Couani
Principal