



# Covid-19 Bulletin 1 2022

## Return to School Plan

Term 1 Weeks 1-4 2022

25 January 2022

In response to the NSW Government's COVID-19 policies, protocols and Public Health Order (PHO) the College has developed the following return to school plan for the commencement of Term 1, 2022.

This plan will operate for Weeks 1-4 and is subject to adjustment and change as local circumstances and Government policy changes.

1. Each school to develop a COVID-19 plan to mitigate against the spread.
2. Each school to distribute Rapid Antigen Home Tests (RAHT) to parents to administer twice per week.
3. No contact tracing required by schools.
4. Masks to be worn indoors by students and staff.
5. QR Codes are no longer required in schools.
6. Do not attend school if you have any COVID-19 symptoms.

<b>VACCINATION FOR SCHOOL STAFF</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PHO is in place until 22 March 2022 and these mandate that all school staff are vaccinated or have a contraindication certificate.</li> <li>• Booster vaccinations will become mandatory, but the deadlines are yet to be announced.</li> </ul>
<b>VACCINATION FOR STUDENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaccination for students has not been mandated. St Pius X College does not mandate this or keep a register of student vaccinations.</li> </ul>
<b>RAPID ANTIGEN HOME TESTS (RAHTs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSW Government is providing 10 tests per student and staff member, to be distributed to parents.</li> <li>• Parents administer these twice per week, on Monday and Thursday before school.</li> <li>• Positive cases must be registered on the Service NSW App by parents.</li> <li>• Parents must notify the school of positive test results via email <a href="mailto:studentmanagement@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au">studentmanagement@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au</a></li> </ul>
<b>POSITIVE CASES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isolate for 7 days.</li> <li>• Leave isolation after 7 days unless there are symptoms.</li> <li>• RAHT not required for 28 days after testing positive.</li> </ul>
<b>ALL STUDENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is a positive case in your son's class, year or other grouping, and your son has no symptoms, students can continue to attend school in line with NSW Health advice.</li> </ul>
<b>CLOSE CONTACTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A close contact is now defined as a household member who lives with a person who has COVID-19.</li> <li>• Only household members are required to isolate for 7 days.</li> <li>• Students who are household close contacts must isolate for 7 days.</li> <li>• Exemption for school staff as essential workers who need not isolate if they are a household member and have tested negative.</li> </ul>

<b>QR CODES FOR SCHOOLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools are no longer mandated to use QR codes.</li> <li>• Any visitors must sign in at the school office and show proof of vaccination.</li> </ul>
<b>MASKS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the PHO, masks must be worn indoors by students and staff.</li> <li>• Masks must be worn on public transport.</li> <li>• All St Pius X College Primary and Secondary students and staff are required to wear masks indoors.</li> </ul>
<b>VISITORS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors are permitted but must sign in at the College office and observe the school's COVID-19 safe protocols and show proof of vaccination.</li> <li>• Visitors should be kept to a minimum.</li> <li>• Masks are required indoors by visitors.</li> <li>• Orientation days are permitted.</li> <li>• Volunteers to assist in Canteen and Uniform Shop are permitted.</li> <li>• External providers permitted with a COVID-19 safety plan.</li> </ul>
<b>SCHOOL ACTIVITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no restrictions on school activities, but all schools must apply COVID-safe protocols and a risk assessment.</li> <li>• There are no density limits in schools such as the 2 square metre rule.</li> <li>• Schools are encouraged to cohort where possible. Assemblies are permitted.</li> <li>• The College will continue with staggered recess and lunch breaks for the Junior and Senior schools.</li> <li>• Music, singing and ensembles are permitted.</li> <li>• No restrictions on particular instruments.</li> <li>• There is no restriction on schools for camps and excursions but a COVID safe plan must be in place or revised timing.</li> <li>• Sport is permissible with COVID safe plans and protocols.</li> </ul>
<b>STAFF ACTIVITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No restrictions to prevent use of staff rooms and communal spaces.</li> <li>• Staff meetings, professional learning and gatherings are permitted.</li> </ul>
<b>CLEANING AND VENTILATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day cleaner to continue daily cleaning of travel points, railings and toilets.</li> <li>• Windows and doors to be opened.</li> <li>• Ventilators in classrooms where necessary.</li> <li>• Outdoor spaces will be utilised where possible and appropriate.</li> </ul>

NB. The College will continue to monitor advice from NSW Health and the NSW Department of Education and modify this plan as policy and protocols are revised.