

COVID-19 Bulletin 6 2022

Term 1 Week 8 2022

22 March 2022

Term 1 continues to progress well. This COVID-19 Bulletin aims to update parents, students and staff on the contingencies in place regarding COVID-19 and the ways in which the school continues to meet the challenges of student and staff absenteeism as well as outlining the emphasis on COVID SAFE protocols at the College.

STUDENT COVID-19 CASES

Throughout the term, there have been cases in every year level where students have either contracted COVID-19 or have had to isolate due to a household member testing positive.

Below are the numbers of students with COVID-19 last week and this week. As you can see, the numbers overall represent less than 5% of the total student enrolment. This does not include those who are isolating due to another household member being positive. In total when combined, the highest absenteeism on any day this year was approximately 8.5 % of the total school population. Last week there was a spike in Year 6 and this week it is in Year 10.

Week 7	14-Mar-22		15-Mar-22		16-Mar-22		17-Mar-22		18-Mar-22	
	Covid +	Isolating								
Year 5	6	4	7	4	7	3	9	3	8	4
Year 6	19	1	18	3	15	4	14	3	11	5
Year 7	5	10	8	8	7	6	6	7	8	9
Year 8	6	9	6	9	6	8	6	8	4	9
Year 9	2	3	2	3	2	4	2	5	2	6
Year 10	7	4	6	5	6	6	7	6	9	4
Year 11	2	5	3	1	4	1	4	2	3	2
Year 12	0	2	0	5	0	5	1	4	3	5
Total	47	38	50	38	47	37	49	38	48	44

Week 8	21-Ma	ar-22	22-Mar-22		
	Covid +	Isolating	Covid +	Isolating	
Year 5	5	2	3	3	
Year 6	0	8	1	9	
Year 7	9	9	7	11	
Year 8	4	8	3	6	
Year 9	1	11	2	11	
Year 10	18	3	18	5	
Year 11	5	3	7	3	
Year 12	6	2	7	3	
Total	48	46	48	51	

STAFF COVID-19 CASES

The College staff have also had an increase in cases with between 4-6 staff away each day due to COVID-19. This has meant that we have employed a range of experienced and qualified casual staff to take the classes that have been left by these teachers. I am grateful and pleased to welcome back Mr Patterson, Mr Garvey, Mr Enright, Mr Simoni and other staff who have formerly taught at the College.

SETTING OF WORK FOR STUDENTS

The College staff are placing work for their classes in a variety of places. Students have been advised to continue to consult the portal, their class CANVAS page as well as other software as directed by their teacher such as One Note and Office 365.

Any parents who are concerned about their son's work for classes are encouraged to contact their son's Year Coordinator or teacher.

FORMAL ASSESSMENTS

Where there are formal assessments that have been impacted, the teachers and Coordinators are finding alternative tasks or appropriate alternatives.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

The College continues to follow the Public Health Orders in place from NSW Health and we have continued the emphasis with students and staff regarding their personal health and hygiene. The following protocols are emphasised:

- Students with any COVID like symptoms should stay at home.
- Any student or staff attending camps such as this week's Year 7 Camp, must complete a RAHT test before attending.
- Any parents who need further RAHT kits are asked to contact the College and these can be sent home.
- Masks are no longer mandatory in schools however students and staff are welcome to continue to wear masks.
 If the numbers of positive cases rises significantly the College will consider making these mandatory but current numbers do not support this. Masks continue to be mandatory on all public transport, school buses to Oxford Falls and excursions or camps.
- Sanitiser is utilised throughout the College along with air purifiers and good ventilation.
- A day cleaner continues to clean throughout the school day wiping down high touchpoints and cleaning the toilets.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION

Any parents who seek further information or clarification on the College's policies and protocols, please contact the school's COVID-19 Officer, Mr Mark Casey (Deputy Principal) mcasey@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

In closing, the College offers its sincere appreciation to all parents, students and staff for their ongoing support in managing the school's safety and hygiene.