

Term 3 Update

Good afternoon Daramalan families,

We look forward to welcoming back our students on Monday morning for the start of Term 3. For our Year 12 students we wish them a wonderful experience at their camp/retreat.

I hope that you have all had a restful break and are ready for the term ahead. For those families who were able to travel either interstate or overseas, I hope that it was seamless and without any major hiccups. I am also aware that for many families, this has not been the break that they planned, and I hope you are all over the worst of your symptoms.

I am writing to confirm that as of this morning, there have been **no changes to the Restrictions and Guidelines for Schools as we move into Term 3** to what was in place at the end of Term 2. However, as the Chief Health Officer has indicated, the numbers of Covid-19 cases, combined with the Cold and Flu season, are expected to increase dramatically over the coming weeks. The Health and Safety of our wider community is our priority. As such we will continue to have measures in place to help to mitigate the risks here at the College.

- Please continue to monitor your student for symptoms, and keep them at home if they are displaying Covid-19 or Cold and Flu symptoms and get tested. As has previously been the case, students displaying symptoms at school will be sent to First Aid and families will be called to collect them. The College has a limited supply of RATs available for families to access should they need to do so. Please contact Reception to arrange for collection of these.
- Should your student test positive for Covid-19 or be deemed a close contact please follow the procedures outlined by ACT Health or NSW Health (dependant on where you live) in relation to reporting the result, and also please complete the online form on Daranet.
- Please also be aware that the reinfection period has now changed for all jurisdictions. Your student will need to test if they have symptoms more than **28 days** after being cleared from infection, rather than the previous **12 weeks**.
- Masks are not mandated to be worn in schools, however, we strongly encourage students to wear a mask. Masks will be worn at our whole school events and when students are travelling on buses to excursions/camps/retreats.
- It is an ACT and NSW Government requirement that students wear a mask on public transport. This includes school bus services.
- Hand sanitiser has been replenished in all classrooms and common student areas. We would encourage students to continue to utilise this as it is a simple but effective strategy for minimising the spread of germs.
- The College also continues to have additional day cleaners sanitising high traffic areas of the College.

As I have previously mentioned, the CHO expects a significant increase in the number of Covid-19 cases in the coming weeks combined with increases in colds and flu. As a College we will not be immune from this.

There are measures that we will have in place to minimise as best we can the disruption to student learning as we navigate the coming weeks and months. Students who are required to isolate will be able to access their learning through their class Daranet pages. The support of their Pastoral Leader is also available at this time. However, I would ask that families also keep in mind that our staff are also susceptible to Covid-19 and colds and flu, so may be absent due to these illnesses.

Best wishes for the term ahead



Rachel Davies
Principal
