



Emmanuel Anglican College Community Update: 5 August 2021

Dear students, staff and families,

Thank you to all our students, parents and staff for your ongoing support, patience and flexibility in relation to the ongoing restrictions designed to minimise the risk of an outbreak of Covid19 in our community.

The College continues to monitor the latest health advice and I have been involved in a number of Zoom meetings in recent weeks involving representatives of NSW Health, NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), the NSW Department of Education and the Association of Independent Schools as we have discussed the latest health advice and developed a suitable response to minimise the impact on students and their learning.

We are particularly mindful of the needs of our Year 12 students as they prepare for their HSC examinations. NESA has moved back all of the major HSC submission and examination dates to give all students additional time to complete work and prepare for their examinations.

As we have seen from the outbreak in both Sydney and, more recently, in Queensland, the situation is very fragile and the level of restrictions can change very quickly. I encourage all members of the community to ensure they are aware of the latest health advice, restriction requirements and continue to practice good health and hygiene habits. I also actively encourage all of those that are eligible to receive a Covid19 vaccine, to make a booking and get vaccinated.

I understand that for a variety of reasons, families that may need to travel to an area with a known outbreak. I ask that if this is the case, you ensure you follow all of the health advice and if required, isolate and get tested.

The following is an overview of the current advice for schools in our region which are covered by Level 2 Restrictions.

General health advice

- Any student or staff with cold and flu like symptoms or respiratory illness, no matter how mild, are to stay home, get a Covid test and seek medical advice as required.
- All staff, students and parents are to practice physical distancing measures.
- Masks are required to be worn in all public indoor spaces.
- Anyone who has visited a known hotspot area in the last 14 days, have been in a nominated contact or exposure site or have been a close or casual contact of a known case are required to self isolate for 14 days and to get a COVID 19 test.

Restrictions relating to students

- It is mandatory for students over 13 years of age travelling on public transport (including chartered buses) to wear a mask.
- It is recommended that all students over the age of 13 wear a mask when using indoor spaces at school.
- Regular hand washing and use of sanitiser is encouraged throughout the school day.
- Students are to bring water bottles to school and use bubblers as refill stations.



- Singing and choir activities are permitted in outdoor area only.

Restrictions relating to staff

- All staff are required to sign in using the Services NSW app each day when attending the College.
- Staff are to wear masks when indoors and in proximity to other staff.
- Staff may remove their masks when teaching but are to maintain physical distance from other staff/adults.

Restrictions relating to Parents

- Parents are not permitted to enter the College grounds except for essential matters.
- All parents that do attend the College must sign in using the Services NSW app and wear a mask at all times.
- Parents of students in the Early Learning Centre may enter the College grounds at drop off and pick up time but all other parents must drop off or meet their children at the gate. Parents are not to congregate in drop off and pick up areas.

Sport, Excursions and Camps

- All NCIS sporting events have been placed on hold, with a decision about rescheduling dates to be made later in August.
- Some sporting fixtures involving local schools will go ahead in line with current health advice relating to community sport.
- The Primary and Secondary Sport Program will continue as normal.
- Excursions will be reviewed on a case by case basis with priority given to those that are connected to mandatory syllabus requirements.
- The current restrictions do not permit overnight stays and therefore, camps and overnight retreats will be replaced with alternative activities within our region.

Additional measures

- Hand sanitisers will be readily available across the College and all toilets have soap dispensers.
- There will be additional cleaning of all high traffic surfaces including door handles, toilet areas, hand rails and student desks each day.

Thank you for your support and patience as we continue to navigate these uncertain times together.

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