



Adelaide Catholic Education Centre 116 George Street, Thebarton SA 5031 PO Box 179, Torrensville Plaza SA 5031 T +61 8 8301 6600 F +61 8 8301 6611 E director@cesa.catholic.edu.au W www.cesa.catholic.edu.au ABN: 91 893 631 195 SACCS ABN: 84 572 437 441

Dear Parents and Caregivers

With the significant increase in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks coinciding with the start of Term 3, we would like to remind you and your child of practical steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of spreading and catching COVID-19.

First and foremost, please ensure that your child stays away from school and gets tested for COVID-19 if they are experiencing any symptoms, however mild.

Additionally, though it is not mandatory, it is recommended that students in years 3 to 12 continue to wear face masks when indoors to help reduce the spread of the virus. You are encouraged to ensure your child brings a mask to school each morning. There is a limited back up supply at school if a child forgets to bring a mask or their mask breaks at school.

Note too that when travelling on public transport, those aged 12 years and over are required to wear a mask.

In relation to children who are deemed to be close contacts of cases (where other family members are positive for COVID-19), it remains mandatory to wear a mask outside of the home, and this includes school, along with undertaken testing in accordance with SA Health advice.

We appreciate that some children may find it challenging or awkward to wear a mask, but by wearing one, your child has an additional physical barrier to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Mask-wearing is one very effective tool in our toolkit, along with ensuring you and your family are fully vaccinated, getting tested, and practicing social distancing.

SA Health has lots of information on their website to help you and your family stay COVID safe.

Together, we can reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Dr Neil McGoran Director Catholic Education South Australia

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Professor Nicola Spurrier Chief Public Health Officer SA Health

25 July 2022