



Pittwater House

## From the Deputy Principal

18 July 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope all our students have had a restful break and are eagerly looking forward to Term 3. As you will be aware, COVID-19 continues to be with us and has again recently spiked. This means there will be an increase in our community members either contracting COVID-19 or being close contacts. I have attached the latest NSW Health advice link, which details the current health requirements for schools. It is essential we continue to abide by these rules and maintain caution to assist us in having the least number of disruptions to our term, and our community stays as healthy as possible.

Link: [https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe/advice-for-parents-students?utm\\_source=servicensw\\_consumer&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=2022-07-14\\_sfmc\\_828\\_con\\_covid\\_newsletter&utm\\_content=04\\_covid-19\\_advice\\_for\\_schools&utm\\_term=covid-19\\_advice\\_for\\_schools\\_cta\\_button#toc-term-3-2022-covid-smart-measures-for-schools](https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe/advice-for-parents-students?utm_source=servicensw_consumer&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2022-07-14_sfmc_828_con_covid_newsletter&utm_content=04_covid-19_advice_for_schools&utm_term=covid-19_advice_for_schools_cta_button#toc-term-3-2022-covid-smart-measures-for-schools)

I would like to specifically highlight a couple of the key points:

- Symptomatic students and staff should continue to access PCR and store-purchased rapid antigen tests.
  - If a student is unwell and has any symptoms, they should always test for COVID-19.
  - If the test is negative for COVID-19, the student should still not return to school until either:
    - The student no longer has any symptoms, or
    - A medical certificate is provided to the school confirming that symptoms are explained by another diagnosis (such as hay fever).
  - It is important that students do not attend school if they are unwell, even if they have tested negative for COVID-19.
  - Rapid antigen tests can produce false negative results and symptoms of other illnesses can also be similar to COVID-19, including flu, the common cold and stomach bugs.
  - Health advice is that students who are sick should always stay home to rest and recover and avoid putting other students and staff at risk of getting sick.
- Students and staff who **test positive** are required to:
  - Notify the school via Skoolbag
  - Isolate for 7 days and until symptoms cease
  - Notify NSW Health via Service NSW Application or the website.
- Students and staff who are **close contacts** must:
  - Inform school through Skoolbag
  - Only attend school if they have no symptoms, wear a mask and test negative each morning.

- People who have previously had COVID-19 will be required to test for COVID-19 after 28 days since their isolation ended if experiencing symptoms and follow the relevant health advice if they test positive. People who test positive again will be reported and managed as new cases. This is a reduction to 4 weeks from the 12 weeks that was previously in place.
- Students and staff are encouraged to be vaccinated to the full extent available for their age category.
- Students and staff are encouraged to wear a mask when indoors, although this is not mandatory (unless a close contact).

We hope through following this advice, continuing to sanitise, and wash our hands, our school will be able to minimise any disruptions caused by COVID in Term 3.

Regards,



James Walmsley  
Deputy Principal