



VILLANOVA COLLEGE

8th August 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I am pleased to advise that the announcement today by the Queensland Government and Chief Health Officer means schools can resume normal operations with certain restrictions in place. I am confident our parents, students and staff will be happy to hear this news and the resumption of face to face teaching once again.

The restrictions in place will impact a number of areas of College operations and I have detailed the implications of the restrictions below. **These restrictions will be in place for the next two weeks until Sunday 22 August.**

Masks

As per the Government's directive, **masks will be mandatory for staff and students at all times on campus.** Students will also be required to wear masks while travelling to and from school. In the interests of safety, the College has made the decision to request that students in Year 5 and Year 6 also wear masks. We have good supplies of masks should they be required, including smaller sizes for younger students. These masks will be available from the respective Student Services Office. Hand sanitizer will be readily available, and students are encouraged to be diligent with personal hygiene.

In the current circumstances, we are happy to support the use of brightly coloured and patterned masks that are appropriate to a school setting. We would ask that students avoid wearing masks with writing, logos or slogans.

It would be appreciated if parents could also emphasise the importance of masks and hygiene.

Health and Hygiene Strategies

The College will continue to be vigilant in maintaining a high level of hygiene in all areas of the College. This will include increased cleaning measures in all classrooms and the continuation of the promotion of healthy hygiene habits and the provision of hand sanitiser for staff and students to use while at school. The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is of paramount importance to us at all times.

Parents and carers are reminded that students must not attend the campus if:

- they are ill
- they or anyone in their household is being tested for COVID-19
- if anyone in their household is in self-isolation in accordance with Government directives.

Gatherings, Co-curricular Activities, Camps and Excursions

We have been directed by QCEC that assemblies and other large group activities including instrumental music groups, choirs, performances and extra-curricular sporting activities will not be permitted. We are also advised that interschool sport and excursions are not permitted.



Effectively, students and staff should not leave their school site during the school day unless there are exceptional circumstances.

We have put a hold on all training and co-curricular activities until we know more about the immediate future of AIC competitions and other events. There will be no training for any activities on Monday and we will communicate further about this as soon as we know more.

Parents/Caregivers and Visitors on Campus

As per guidelines provided this morning by QCEC, we request that parents or visitors do not enter the campus unless absolutely necessary. I acknowledge that this is less than desirable, but these restrictions are necessary so our students can return to their normal learning environments as quickly as possible. Visitors and external providers including providers of extra-curricular activities will not be permitted on school sites.

If in an emergency you need to attend the College, please enter via the Sixth Avenue gate and report directly to Reception. Your son will be located and brought to Reception. Please do not go directly to either the Junior, Middle or Senior Schools' Receptions.

Wednesday 11 August 2021

A reminder also that, with the cancellation of the Exhibition, this Wednesday is now a full school day.

Tuckshop

The Tuckshop will not be operating on Monday 9th August. The Tuckshop will re-open on Tuesday 10th August for all students. Students are asked to ensure they have their student card or cash for purchases.

Conclusion

Whilst the lifting of the current lockdown represents a step towards the resumption of regular College operations, we are still some way from operations returning to normal and we will all need to remain patient and flexible. I again thank everyone in the Villanova College family for working together and supporting each other as we continue to operate under unusual circumstances. We will remain in regular contact to pass on any updates.

Should you have questions or significant concerns, please feel free to reach out via the usual means. Please stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely

Mr Mark Stower
Principal