



10 September 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

As you may be aware from media reports today, a Catholic Secondary College in Sunnybank was closed today due to one of their students testing positive to COVID-19. This will remain an ongoing situation, as close and casual contacts are notified through contact tracing. Please find below some further information that you may find useful. We will endeavour to keep you informed as further information comes to hand.

Queensland case update

There were two new community acquired cases of COVID-19 reported in Queensland today: one case in a student aged 13 years from Sunnybank which is currently under investigation and one case in an interstate transport worker. Both were infectious in the community. There was one new overseas acquired case detected in hotel quarantine.

Catholic school closure

One of the new community cases was a student at St Thomas More College at Sunnybank. As a precaution, the school is closing today, will be deep cleaned and at this stage the advice is that staff, students and their household members will be required to home quarantine for 14 days. The source of that case is under investigation, and it has not yet been established that it is linked to other cases reported this week.

Please note that all household members (including staff or siblings at other Catholic schools) of students at St Thomas More College will be required to quarantine together (unless Queensland Health advice changes over the weekend).

Lockdown possible

Catholic School Authorities, particularly in the Impacted (SEQ) Area, need to be prepared for changes to restrictions at short notice over the weekend (including a move to remote learning). All students were encouraged to take all essential equipment with them today as they may need to do work from home or remote learning next week.

Face masks in Impacted (SEQ) Area

Given the detection of several new cases this week, the Queensland Government will be extending the current face mask restrictions in the Impacted (SEQ) Area.

Border Zone changes

From 1am Monday a border bubble will be re-established between Queensland and the NSW LGAs where lockdowns were lifted yesterday. Travel across the border will be permitted (using the border pass system) for a wider range of reasons **including to attend school and work**.

Exposure sites

As a result of the recent new cases the list of exposure sites in Queensland is progressively being updated, particularly in the South-East Queensland (SEQ) area. Check [here](#) for the latest list of exposure sites.



Please be mindful that different exposure sites carry different advice, depending on whether they are categorised as close, casual or low risk contact exposure venues. The advice is as follows:

Close contact exposure venue

If you have been to this location in Queensland at the relevant times, you must do the following:

1. immediately travel by private transport directly to your home or accommodation and [quarantine](#)
2. [get tested](#) at your earliest opportunity
3. complete the [contact tracing form](#) online
If you are unable to complete the contact tracing form please call 134 COVID ([134 268](#))
4. continue to [quarantine](#) even after receiving a negative result. After you complete the contact tracing form you will be contacted by Queensland Health
5. continue to monitor for symptoms while you are quarantined. If you become symptomatic [get tested](#) and isolate until you receive a negative result
6. as you are a close contact, you and anyone who resides at your home or accommodation are required to quarantine for 14 days from the time you were at the venue.

Casual contact exposure venue

If you have been to this venue at the relevant times, you must do the following:

1. immediately travel by private transport directly to your home or accommodation and [quarantine](#)
2. [get tested](#) at your earliest opportunity
3. continue to [quarantine](#) until you receive a negative result
4. enter your details into the [contact tracing form](#), but please note you will not be contacted by Queensland Health unless additional information about the exposure changes the risk level
5. continue to monitor for symptoms, if you become symptomatic [get tested](#) and isolate until you receive a negative result.

Low risk exposure venue

If you have been to this venue at the relevant times, you must do the following:

1. [get tested](#) but you do not need to isolate unless you have symptoms
2. if you are experiencing symptoms, [isolate](#) at home until you receive a negative result
3. continue to monitor for symptoms, if you become symptomatic get tested and isolate until you receive a negative result.

Communication

The health and safety of all in the Villanova College Family remains our top priority. Our decisions will always be informed by the need to keep people safe and by the directions of authorities - we will be sure to pass on any updates to the community in a timely manner. I encourage families to continue monitoring communication from the College and Queensland Health as your sources of information.

We are blessed to enjoy the ongoing support of our community and we are very grateful for this. I encourage you to reach out for support if we can be of assistance in any way. Please stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr Steven Bremner
Acting Principal