Dear families,

We are once again beginning the school year with the COVID pandemic impacting how we are able to offer learning programs for our students. The State Government has made the decision to stagger the start of the 2022 school year to help minimise the peak of COVID-19 cases in South Australia.

This decision balances the need to get every student back to school and learning with the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and our community.

It is important that the students transitioning to secondary school are able to start their high school journey in a way that is as normal and supportive as possible and so we will welcome, to our school, our year 7 and 8 students when school starts on Wednesday 2 February. We will also welcome back our students doing stage 2 (year 12) subjects on this day.

Term 1 will start at different times for different year levels.

Monday 31 January and Tuesday 1 February

- Will be used by teachers to prepare the online learning programs for each of their classes.

Wednesday 2 February

- Welcome our year 7 and year 8 students and welcome back our year 12 students for face to face learning
- Years 9, 10 and 11 students will access their learning online using the SEQTA learner management system

Monday 14 February

- Planned return of face-to-face learning for all year levels.

If you choose to keep your child at home, or if they are required to isolate, an online learning program will not be able to be offered, if they are in years 7, 8 or 12.

Willunga High School will welcome the children of people who are required to attend their workplace and do not have any other appropriate supervision for their children. The children of essential workers will be supervised and supported to engage in their online learning program while at school.

While we are excited by the opportunity to welcome students back to school we need to make sure we do this in the safest way possible and **we will be implementing the following measures as advised by the Department for Education and SA Health**:

- Please keep your child home if they are unwell, even mildly
- **Masks will be compulsory for:**
    - All adults when indoors (except when providing explicit teaching for the students)
    - All students in years 7 to 12 when indoors

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- Natural ventilation will be maximised by leaving doors/windows open, continued use of air conditioning (set to fresh air intake where available) and fans where possible
- Outdoor learning will be used where this aligns with the learning program
- Physical distancing where possible
- Minimise student intermingling indoors, for example across class groups
- We will need to limit non-essential visitors on site
- An extra daily site clean will continue to occur
- We have been instructed to postpone the following activities (until week 4 of term):
    - camps, excursions and incursions
    - interschool sport competitions
    - large gatherings such as assemblies, events and concerts.

We will continue to provide updates for our families as we progress our planning for the start of the term and as new information comes to hand.

If you have further questions, please contact the school on 8557 0100.

Yours faithfully,

Anthony van Ruiten
Principal

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