



11 February 2022

Dear Families,

Next Monday 14 February we get to welcome back all our students for the 2022 academic year. We would like congratulate our year 9, 10 and 11 students (and their families) for their resilience and flexibility in starting their school year engaged in remote learning. Our primary concern at this time is the health and safety of our students and staff. To date we have been fortunate not to have many concerns re COVID infections in our school we will need to work diligently to ensure that this remains the case.

The return of the remainder of our students to school next week presents us with challenges in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all members of the school community. All members of our community are reminded of the directions from SA Health and the Department for Education and are asked to respect the health and wellbeing of all members of our community and follow this carefully.

All the expert medical advice says that masks are the best form of protection against sharing the virus and catching the virus. We ask that you:

- ensure your child understands that it is a **requirement that they wear a face mask (unless they have an approved medical exemption) while indoors at school**
- **masks are also required to be worn on the school bus service** (this is a high risk setting)
We will have supplies for them to wear if they don't already have one (on the buses and at school)
- We understand why some students need medical exemptions and will support them with that. These students however are at greater risk of infection than those wearing masks and we will need to support them by reminding them that they are to be at the very least 1.5 metres from others, inside and outside the classroom and they need to follow all reasonable directions from staff in regard to their safety.

It is also essential that keep your child/ren home if they are:

- unwell
- experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms
- any other member of the household has COVID-19
- they are a close contact of a person who has COVID-19 and are required to quarantine

Please notify us immediately if your child/ren tests positive for COVID-19 and follow the SA Health directions regarding their isolation and for those who may be house hold or close contacts.



Organisation for Monday 14 February

On the first day back at school each year we would normally be able to gather students together to share information regarding our expectations of them. In the current environment we are unable to do this. Please inform your child/ren of the following.

- Upon arrival at school they should attend their Home Group rooms. They can find out which room to go to from their online SEQTA timetable
- There have been no changes to the uniform expectations and so students must be in full school uniform
- Each student will be issued a locker this week for the storage of their bags, phones and learning equipment. They will be asked to ensure that they do not bring their bags to classes
- SA Government policy requires that mobile phones are not used in classrooms unless they are being used for a specific teacher directed learning activity, phones should be left in students' lockers during lesson
- Students will be asked to dispose of any energy drinks that they may bring onto the school grounds. These drinks have a significant negative effect on student health, behaviour and learning.

All government schools in South Australia follow the directions of the Department for Education and SA Health regarding the management of COVID-19 risks. Further information about this can be found on the [SA Health website](#). Should you have any concerns about masks and other requirements generally, please contact SA Health.

Thank you again for your understanding and support in implementing these temporary measures as we continue to work our way, collectively, through the COVID disruption and try to keep all members of our school and wider community healthy and safe. If we continue to work together and follow the directions given us, we can keep our school open and continue to provide high-quality learning programs and wellbeing support for your child. Please contact the school if you need any further assistance.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. van Ruiten'.

Anthony van Ruiten
Principal