



## By Email

Dear Parents/Legal Guardians

### Re: Reporting close contacts and positive cases

I am writing to inform you of new guidelines effective immediately for reporting positive COVID-19 cases within the community, including requirements for testing and isolation.

An important change resulting from these guidelines is that the College will now be responsible for:

1. communicating with close contacts in the College community and
2. advising them that they are required to isolate for a period of 7 days.

In addition, those identified as a possible close contact will also be advised to isolate immediately.

This communication will be done while the College also liaises with WA Health and AISWA in relation to the confirmed infectious period.

To complete this task, we have now deployed our own College contact tracing team who will gather all movement information and work to notify parents quickly and if possible, before a confirmation of a positive case.

WA Health will review the infectious period and communicate the timeframe after a confirmed PCR. Once we have been notified of the infectious period, we will then revise who is deemed a close contact in the school community and notify families accordingly.

### New definitions of a school-based close contact

It is important families are aware of the information for school-based close contacts and definitions of close contacts in schools:

- Household member of a person with COVID-19 who has had close contact with them during the infectious period; **or**
- face-to-face contact for 15 minutes or more with an infectious person, where a mask was not worn by the exposed person or the person with COVID-19
- interaction for more than two hours in a small indoor space or interaction for more than two hours in a classroom environment with an infectious person, where masks have been removed for this period
- Someone who is directed by WA Health that they are a close contact.

### If a student has a positive RAT, a PCR test is required to confirm the result

You must report a positive RAT test at <http://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/ratregister>

### COVID-19 positive case

If a COVID-19 positive case is identified at the College, this will be reported to the AISWA COVID-19 Support Team and WA Health as soon as we become aware of it.

**Parents will be notified of any exposure** and will be required to collect their child/ren, who will be required to isolate for 7 days,

Students will be supported to continue to learn from home and will receive instructions from the Primary or Secondary Curriculum offices, who will provide for all students during their isolation period. If whole class or Year groups are in isolation. LJ@homelearning will commence.

### **Students in Primary school deemed a close contact**

If there is a positive case in a Primary class where no masks are worn, the whole class will be sent home to isolate and monitor for symptoms for 7 days.

### **Reporting Close contacts not at School**

A reminder that students who are unwell, symptomatic or test positive to COVID-19 must stay home and report this to the College as soon as possible.

Students may be exposed to a close contact outside of school and should be tested. If this is the case, please report the contact to Attendance staff who will annotate this on the college attendance system as an approved absence and will indicate that they are isolating and awaiting results.

The College website now has a link to **Reporting a Positive RAT or PCR test forms**. This will greatly assist staff to respond quickly and to collect important information and to identify and manage the students isolating or who have a positive result [HERE](#)

An infographic will be added to the website soon to assist with families with this new advice.

As I reported in my first communication, this situation continues to change each day, please do check for updates from me and those on the College website. All communication will be in the OUR COMMUNITY tab and COVID-19. I would ask that you please, keep students' home if they are unwell, have COVID-19 like symptoms, get a COVID-19 test and remain home until a negative COVID-19 test result is received. Further information about symptoms can be found on [HERE](#).

On behalf of the College Management Team, we thank you for your ongoing support, particularly during these ever-changing times.

Yours sincerely



Paul Sonneman-Smith  
College Principal

25 February 2022