

11 November 2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

**Term 4, Planning for Week 5 & 6**

As you will be aware, the Government announced yesterday afternoon that secondary schools are to reopen for students in **Year 7 – 10** from **Wednesday 17 November**. This letter sets out how we will manage this process to help ensure the College continues to operate efficiently and safely for everyone who comes on our site.

Last week senior students returned to College and we have had a very successful transition back to onsite learning for our seniors. We look forward to the return of our Middle School students and we have plans in place to ensure their safety and wellbeing in line with the recently revised Covid Alert Level guidelines.

The Senior Leadership Team met yesterday and decided that all **Year 8 – 10** students will return from Wednesday next week, while **Year 7** continue with their Distance Learning. From **Monday 22 November** Year 7 & 8 will be onsite on different days. We will follow the normal daily timetable with Tutor roll check starting at **8.40am**.

**Week 5**

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| --- | --- |
| Monday 15 Nov (Day 7) | *Year 7 – 10 Distance Learning* |
| Tuesday 16 Nov (Day 1) | *Year 7 – 10 Distance Learning* |
| Wednesday 17 Nov (Day 2) | Year 8 – 10 onsite – *Year 7 Distance Learning* |
| Thursday 18 Nov (Day 3) | Year 8 – 10 onsite – *Year 7 Distance Learning* |
| Friday 19 Nov (Day 4) | Year 8 – 10 onsite – *Year 7 Distance Learning* |

**Week 6**

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| --- | --- |
| Monday 22 Nov (Day 5) | Year 7, 9 & 10 onsite – *Year 8 Distance Learning* |
| Tuesday 23 Nov (Day 6) | Year 7, 9 & 10 onsite – *Year 8 Distance Learning* |
| Wednesday 24 Nov (Day 7) | Year 7, 9 & 10 onsite – *Year 8 Distance Learning* |
| Thursday 25 Nov (Day 1) | Year 8 - 10 onsite – *Year 7 Distance Learning* |
| Friday 26 Nov (Day 2) | Year 8 - 10 onsite – *Year 7 Distance Learning* |

***Note****: We will continue to alternate Year 7 and Year 8 onsite/offsite, given they share common spaces in the EMC. This is in line with the Government guidelines published yesterday regarding Year 1 – 8.*

*The programme for Week 7 will be published closer to the time as there will inevitably be changes.*

**Siblings**

College Year 7 and 8 Students who are siblings can, if necessary (where home care is not possible), attend school on the same days even if not scheduled. They will report directly to their class/tutor teacher and undertake their ‘Distance Learning’ programme while supervised in the EMC.

**Essential Workers ‘Bubble’**

The small number of essential workers’ students who are already attending onsite will continue to be able to learn onsite until their year group returns onsite.

**NCEA Exams**

Elliot Hall and adjacent classrooms are set up for examinations and will follow the published NZQA examination schedule. We wish all our seniors the best as they prepare for these exams which start on Monday 22 November.

**Week 5 ‘off site’ support for Senior Students**

As highlighted in the last communication, Senior School teachers will continue to be available in their normal class timetabled periods during Week 5 (Study Leave). This will enable individual students to contact (via email or Teams) their subject teachers to receive support and guidance and answer any specific questions students may have.

In the current Covid environment, we encourage online tutorials by Teams rather than onsite ‘face to face’ contact.  Students are welcome to email their teachers to arrange meetings in their scheduled class timetable.

**Room Changes**

Middle School normal timetabled classrooms will be used on Wednesday (Day 2) and Thursday (Day 3) on 17 and 18 November. New classrooms may be allocated on Friday due to the commencement of NCEA exams on Monday 22 November. These classroom changes will show on students OLE timetable. All students must take responsibility for checking their own timetable.

**Lockers**

In Week 5 lockers are to be cleared out in the English block ahead of the NCEA exams and by the end of Week 7 all other lockers must be cleared and left clean and tidy for 2022.

**Uniform & Dress**

Students are to wear their normal summer uniform. Obviously, hairstyles of students (and staff for that matter!) may have grown over Lockdown and this will not be considered a uniform issue. Neat and tidy is all we would ask. Everyone abides by our summer uniform and jewellery expectations. Girls are to have their hair tied up as per normal.

**Health & Safety**

* Our normal morning and afternoon **bus routes** will be operating from Wednesday 17 November.
* It is mandatory for all students and staff to wear masks onsite and while traveling to and from school on the bus.
* All classrooms will be well ventilated and hand sanitiser will be available.
* For parents and caregivers who are collecting their child after school please do so from the Manor Park entrance and remain in your car until your child arrives.
* The College is fully prepared in the event of a possible case of Covid-19 and will follow the Ministry of Health direction should this situation arise.

**Masks Guidelines**

Masks must be worn in the following situations:

* On school buses (eg while waiting, loading and exiting)
* In the classroom
* Waiting in corridors or confined indoor spaces
* In close proximity to other students
* Walking from one lesson to the next

Masks may only be removed when:

* Outside during interval or lunchtime when students are eating or exercising only

Additional information regarding return to College guidelines are available on the OLE homepage.

[College Parents & Students Return to School Guidelines](https://parents.saintkentigern.com/send.php?id=418427)

[Student Return to School Guidelines](https://parents.saintkentigern.com/send.php?id=418425)

**Food & Drink**

* We strongly encourage students to bring a packed morning tea/lunch from home.
* Saints Café will be open with a limited menu for ‘click and collect’ by [ordering through the OLE](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZEDIeFldIEKdDz5oTSna-KH_sxPTx2RCvWmQiHMNz_RUM1daSVhSV01SUVVRTUdUSThLSEVOTFZMNy4u) and will be charged to parents’ accounts. (No cash payments will be possible). Online orders must be made by **1.30pm** the DAY PRIOR to collection so that we can ensure that the requests can be fulfilled. There may be opportunity for eftpos sales on the day should stock be available.
* Drinking fountains with bottle fillers will be open to fill drink bottles only.
* Different collection times will be used to avoid gathering and large queues. These will be communicated on the OLE notices next week.
* Allocated outdoor eating areas:
* Y7 & 8 – Outside of EMC (alternative days)
* Y9 – Goodfellow Quad
* Y10 – Saints Plaza and grass bank

Covered areas will be provided if we have a ‘wet lunchtime’.

**Vaccinations**

As communicated previously, in line with Government health requirements, all our staff are either fully vaccinated or in the process of completing this in the coming weeks. All staff are required to have also returned a negative Covid test in the last five days before returning to the campus.

If you have not already done so, in line with Ministry of Health advice, we would strongly recommend all parents to have your child (12 and over) vaccinated.

**Attendance**

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that if your child is sick please do not send them to school and let the College know in the usual way through the absence email (skc\_absence@saintkentigern.com). Please ensure you state your child’s name, Tutor Group and reason for absence. We do appreciate that for some families a return to school at this time is not a viable option for a range of valid reasons. However, if your child remains at home, we are not able to provide distance learning once their year group is back onsite. They may be able to undertake ‘self-directed’ revision from classwork posted on the OLE class pages.

We look forward to welcoming all our Middle School students back onsite, as I am sure they have had enough of lockdown learning! As always, these plans are ‘fluid’ and may be subject to change in light of the current Covid environment in Auckland.

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Duncan McQueen

**College Principal (Acting)**