



SAINT KENTIGERN

26 January 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to 2022 and, in preparation for start of school on **Tuesday 1 February**, I would like to advise you of the first day and of Covid-19 information updates. Clearly, with the move to the Red Traffic Light setting, our programmes will be impacted. As most will be aware, all students and staff must wear a face mask while at school, as well as travelling to and from school on the buses. If children are unwell, please do not send them to school and advise the College, in the usual way, through the absence e-mail (skc_absence@saintkentigern.com).

The information below is both an update and reinforcement of the beginning of the year letter sent out last week, which can either be found on the OLE or [click here](#).

First Day – Tuesday 1 February

On arrival, the students will be directed to the following gathering points: (Staff will be on hand to assist students. Tutor Teachers will meet students at the allocated venues).

Year / House Group	Venue
Year 7	Elizabeth Macfarlan Centre (EMC)
Year 8	Bruce House Tennis Turf
Year 9 Boys	Gym 1
Year 9 Girls	Gym 2
Year 10	Elliot Hall
Year 11	Chapel
Year 12	Goodfellow Quad (if raining Goodfellow Centre)
Year 13	Saints Plaza / Year 13 Common Room

At these welcome meetings, which will commence from **8.40am**, students will meet their Tutor and, from there move to their Tutor Group room where they will be provided with their timetables and important beginning of Term information. Normal classes will begin at Period 3 (Day 1 of the timetable).

Prefect Commissioning Service

Unfortunately, due to the Red Covid restrictions, this event has been postponed to a later date.

COLLEGE

For Boys and Girls in Years 7-13
130 Pakuranga Road, Pakuranga 2010
PO Box 51060, Pakuranga, Auckland 2140
Phone +64 9 577 0749 Fax +64 9 577 0700

BOYS' SCHOOL

For Boys in Years 1-8
82 Shore Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28790, Remuera, Auckland 1541
Phone +64 9 520 7682 Fax +64 9 520 7688

GIRLS' SCHOOL

For Girls in Years 1-8
514 Remuera Road, Remuera 1050
PO Box 28399, Remuera, Auckland 1541
Phone +64 9 520 1400 Fax +64 9 524 7657

PRESCHOOL

For Boys and Girls aged 3 and 4
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Covid Update

- During the Red and Orange settings, the College will be fully operational for all our students, although for a significant Omicron community outbreak online options may be needed. Should the need arise, due to staffing issues or a significant number of students are unable to attend on site due to illness or isolation, the College would 'pivot' to online learning, with some or all students learning offsite. As many will know this was carried out very successfully last year.
- Classroom ventilation - air purification. Saint Kentigern continues to follow Ministry of Education (MoE) guidelines on ventilation. We are in a fortunate position to have good natural ventilation in our classrooms, supported by either centralised air or heat pumps to assist. Should the MoE provide further guidance on other options to improve ventilation including air purification systems we would follow their approved models and guidance. Staff have been instructed to ensure maximum ventilation is maintained throughout the day. CO₂ monitors are on order to confirm our classroom ventilation meets current MoE standards and, should there be a need, other methods will be considered.
- Additional cleaning of student bathrooms during the day, and added cleaning on high touch surfaces such as door handles and stairwell bars continues to take place.
- Masks (preferably the recommended 'medical grade', or similarly fitted to cover the nose and mouth properly) are compulsory on campus inside and outside (unless eating or exercising), and on school transport.
- We ask you to remind your child to follow good hygiene practices, including regular hand washing, (hand sanitiser is also available in classrooms) and any random coughs or sneezes into elbows. If your child suffers from Hayfever please ensure that they take their medication before attending College.
- Vaccinations – please provide your child's vaccination status updates to the College Health Centre, health@saintkentigern.com While vaccinations are not mandated for children it provides information for the MoE/MoH should there be a case amongst our community, and for planning our College programmes. This information is held as private only available to the Health Centre and Senior Leadership Team. As communicated previously, currently all students participating in 'College Sport' events are required to be fully vaccinated.
- In line with government requirements, all staff at the Saint Kentigern College are fully vaccinated and we have a high vaccination rate of our students which provides some protection to them and those around them. Please understand that the school is required to work within the Government Public Health Orders.
- If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. You will be requested to collect them from school if they arrive unwell or become unwell during the course of the school day. This includes minor cold symptoms which cannot be distinguished from some Covid symptoms. Recent evidence suggests that the most common Omicron symptom is a sore throat. Please contact Healthline and have your child tested if they have Covid symptoms. Current guidelines are to have them remain at home until a negative test result is received and they are symptom free.

Saints and Kents Cafés

Our student cafés will be open. Covid guidelines will be applied to limit the number of students in the cafés at a time. Pre-ordering of lunches online via the OLE home page (there is a 'tile' on the right hand side of the page, lower down) by 1pm the day prior will commence from Day 2 onwards, which will allow collection takeaway style with the order against your school account. Eft-pos and cash will still be accepted for walk-ins.

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Individual Photographs

On **Friday 4 February** students must be in their **Formal Uniforms** to have their individual portrait photos taken. Students must be well groomed, and hair cut to the expected uniform standards. I can confirm that our relaxed approach to hair styles post 2021 lockdown has now ended. Boys must be clean shaven and girls with correct earrings (plain studs) and hair tied back if longer than shoulder length.

Please ensure your child begins the year respecting our hair and grooming requirements. Any student not in correct uniform/grooming will not be able to have their photograph taken on the day and will need to have their photo taken on the catch-up morning on Wednesday 9 February. These photos are used for student ID cards.

Swimming Sports

At this stage the College Swimming Sports Preliminary programme will continue as planned (details can be found on the Sports Page, [click here](#)). However, Finals Day on **Friday 11 February** will be participants only, as sadly given Covid restrictions we are unable to welcome parents and guests on site for this event.

NCEA & IB Results

In closing during these challenging times, it is important not to forget why we are here! We are extremely proud of our students for their 2021 examination results. The IB results published in early January are our best yet, achieving two top 45 grades. On Thursday last week the NCEA results for 2021 were published and we congratulate students in the senior years for their successes. Given the unique circumstances of 2021 and the extended lockdown in Terms 3 and 4 we are thrilled to see how well our young people have performed. Further details will be provided in due course. We are proud of all our students and staff for what was achieved in 2021.

We appreciate your continued support as together we navigate our way through the continuing Covid impacted environment. These circumstances add a layer of anxiety/stress unexperienced by many before and we will continue to put the well-being of our students, staff and wider community at the forefront of our thinking and actions.

Fides servanda est, Keep the faith.

Yours sincerely,



Duncan McQueen
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL (Acting)

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