



# SAINT KENTIGERN

Dear Parents and Caregivers

## Covid-19 Update – 23 February

This communication is to provide you with an update on the College's Covid situation. We have been informed of additional positive cases amongst our Community, who are currently isolating and many who are considered Close Contacts getting tested. Thank you to our families and staff that are affected, be it with Covid or as Close Contacts, we appreciate you all for informing us as soon as possible and our thoughts are with you. To date many of our Positive student cases and Close Contacts relate to activities outside of the College, however, there will always be impact regardless of whether the exposure is outside or inside the school environment.

We continue to receive additional changes in how we are to monitor positive cases and Close Contacts from the Ministry of Education (MOE) and hope that this updated information to an ever changing situation will help you to understand further what is happening within our community and how we are responding.

Covid cases are increasing rapidly which has put even more pressure on our testing stations. However, these testing stations are now equipped with the RATs (Rapid Antigen Tests), which they may provide after questioning should there are no symptoms present. We have a restricted supply of RAT tests which we are using to monitor our boarding students, staff and other essential workers, as required.

The College will continue to take a cautious approach in treating positive RAT tests as positive cases, as the trend so far has indicated that the resulting PCR tests are showing positive, albeit currently with a long lag in receiving PCR results.

As a College, we continue to follow advice provided by the Government. We review information received from families and MOE and an individual Health Risk Assessment for categorising contacts is undertaken by members of our Senior Leadership Team. In most cases the wearing of masks and the length of time spent indoors or on a bus negates the need for a student to be classified as 'Close Contact' status and therefore requires no further action. The wearing of masks is essential to protect one and another.

To assist in everyone's understanding of the processes for Positive Cases, Household Contacts and Close Contacts, please review the details below. This information has been sourced from the [Covid 19 Govt Website](#) as at 1.00pm today, and is subject to change:

**Positive Cases** - will be notified by the Ministry of Health. If you receive a positive PCR test, you must self-isolate for 10 days. After 10 days, and as long as you are free of COVID-19 symptoms, you will be free to leave isolation.

- You do not need to be tested. If you were, the result would likely show as positive but that does not mean you are infectious.
- The others in your household will need to return negative tests on the relevant days before they can leave isolation.
- If your family members have been living with you, they will be household contacts and must self-isolate with you for 10 days.

### 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  
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### PRESCHOOL

For Boys and Girls aged 3 and 4  
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Positive cases can return to school on Day 11 if they are fully recovered (symptom free).

### **Close Contacts – If you are a household Close Contact**

You are a household Close Contact if you live with someone who is positive for COVID-19. Whether you are fully vaccinated or not, you need to:

- stay home and self-isolate from others from the day the person with COVID-19 tests positive or is notified as a **probable case** until they complete their 10 days of self-isolation
- **get a test for COVID-19 on Day 3, and on Day 8** of the isolation period
- if symptoms develop at any stage, assume you have COVID-19, and self-isolate for 10 days as a probable case from when your symptoms appear.

**Close Contacts – If you do not live with the positive person -** Whether you are fully vaccinated or not, you:

- need to stay home and self-isolate from others for **7 days** from your last contact with the positive person
- need to get a test for COVID-19 on **day 5** after your last contact with the case
- should monitor for symptoms for 10 days
- can end your self-isolation after 7 days, if you have no symptoms **and** your day 5 test result was negative.

*Note - If the College has identified a student as a close contact of a positive case who was at school when potentially infectious, we will contact you directly. If a student does not receive any notification, they are not deemed by our investigating team to be a Close Contact. However, if a student is certain they are a Close Contact, they should notify the College to enable this to be double checked.*

### **If you develop COVID-19 symptoms after your isolation has finished:**

- get another test straight away
- stay at home until you get a negative test result **and**
- until 24 hours after you no longer have symptoms.

If all your tests are negative and you have no symptoms, you can complete isolation at the same time as the first person in your household who had COVID-19.

As always if you have any questions, please refer to Health Line and the Covid Website for the most up to date information. [Close Contacts Information](#).

Should you be informed of either a Positive test result or classification of Close Contact as a result of events outside the College, please do let the College know and provide the indicative date of return from isolation. ([skc\\_absences@saintkentigern.com](mailto:skc_absences@saintkentigern.com)).

Should you prefer, please text with all necessary details, the absence line on 021 172 6464. Full explanation of how to report an absence can be found on the OLE Page [Click Here](#).

Please also could you inform by email your child(ren)'s Tutor and Head of House to ensure we are able to offer support, where required.

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## Testing Data

We do not need to sight evidence of tests taken or the Ministry of Health (MOH) clearance confirmation. You will not need our permission to return to school. This is a high trust model, and we believe you will do the right thing. Common sense prevails when to keep your child(ren) at home, if they look symptomatic, or you feel that they may have had contact with a positive case please ensure that they do not return to school.

Should you have not received the Day 5 or Day 8 PCR test results, the College will accept a student back if the parent/s is confident the student has kept to isolation and remained symptom free throughout the isolation period.

## Distance Learning

As you will be aware from the media, the Country is heading into greater numbers across the next month. A number of schools are experiencing numerous cases or close contacts and the impact of Close Contacts classification, as it stands during Phase 2 and implemented means that an increasing number of students and staff are impacted. It may be necessary to move to Distance Learning at one or more Year levels again. We will continue to monitor and advise you of any changes.

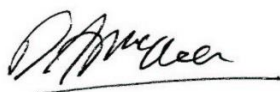
As necessary we will amend our practices to align with changing MOE and MOH guidelines. Even though we feel that we will be dealing with Covid related matters for some time, the College aims to ensure we can continue teaching on campus for as long as it practical.

## Mungo's Uniform Shop

For your information a message from our Uniform Shop Team has been placed on the OLE, [Uniform Shop](#). The shop is moving online from Monday 28 February.

Thank you again for your support as we continue to work to provide your child(ren) with on campus Teaching and Learning, together with cocurricular activities, in a safe and engaging environment.

Yours sincerely,



Duncan McQueen  
**PRINCIPAL (Acting)**

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