

9 September 2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Families,

I am delighted to confirm that schools will be returning to face to face learning on **Monday 13 September** for Week 10 of Term 3, under Level 3 restrictions. This means all New South Wales students and staff are in attendance at school.

Unfortunately, under Level 3 restrictions for schools, non-essential visitors, including family members, are not permitted in schools. This includes visiting classrooms, events and assemblies.

Due to these restrictions, please check with the school office before going onsite. If you have gained prior permission to enter the school, please ensure you follow the mandatory Two Step QR Sign in process.

During drop off and pick up, parents are asked to ensure masks are properly worn and social distancing guidelines are followed.

Under Level 3 Restrictions, it is mandated that all secondary students and staff are required to wear masks in indoor and outdoor spaces in schools. Students are required to provide their own mask and they must be worn prior to entering and leaving school grounds and on public transport. Students who refuse to wear a mask and do not have documented evidence of an exemption will not be able to attend school during Level 3 restrictions.

If your child has cold or flu symptoms, please follow the health advice, get tested and stay at home while unwell. Students who are unwell and attend school will be sent home with the request to get tested. Visitors who have cold or flu symptoms will not be permitted to enter the school.

Please refer to the attached Level 3 Restrictions Overview for detailed information.

### **Year 12 Students**

HSC exams will commence on Tuesday 9 November. The new timetable and any additional changes will be available in September. Schools will communicate with you regarding Term 4 learning and study arrangements.

While we have been advised that New South Wales Education Authority (NESA) will contact all HSC students with a prioritised offer of vaccination, students are able to make their own vaccination arrangements should they wish to do so.

VET placements and work experience are permitted. VET students in years 11 and 12 who cannot complete their placement due to COVID-19 restrictions will remain eligible for the HSC.

Preparations are underway for formal and graduation events. Schools are preparing for several scenarios and will notify you as soon as possible should there be changes to current arrangements.

Students who travel into a lockdown area from Saturday 11 September must adhere to the same Stay at Home Order for 14 days, or while the Order is in effect, whichever is shorter. We strongly advise against travel into areas that remain in lockdown.

While I am disappointed that these current restrictions prevent family members going onto school sites, school staff are excited and overjoyed to be welcoming students back into classrooms.

I thank you again for your continued understanding and support of schools and their staff throughout the difficult circumstances of Term 3. Please keep in your prayers those who may be unwell at this time and all involved in responding to the COVID-19 situation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your Principal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Towns".

Sally Towns  
*Director of Catholic Schools*

Attach.