

## WERRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

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9 September 2022

Dear school community,

Last week you may have heard that National Cabinet announced that the isolation period for positive COVID-19 cases would be reduced from 7 days to 5 days from Friday 9 September with the following conditions:

- This would apply to people with no symptoms at 5 days.
- 7 days isolation would remain for workers in high-risk settings including aged care, disability care and those providing care in the home.

In line with the National Cabinet announcement, the following requirements will apply at our school.

All staff, students and visitors who have tested positive to COVID-19 must:

- complete 5 days of isolation from the date they tested positive
- be symptom-free before returning to school, if symptoms remain after Day 5 they must continue following NSW Health guidelines to self-isolate and undertake a rapid antigen test
- complete a rapid antigen test (RAT) and return a negative result before attending school on Days 6 and 7 after testing positive to COVID-19, and
- wear a mask on Days 6 and 7 when attending school (for all staff and those students 12 years and older).

Staff and students may use the RAT kits supplied to them by our school early this term for the purpose of testing before attending school on Days 6 and 7. If you require additional RAT kits for this purpose, please get in touch with our front office who can provide or organise additional kits.

Due to the higher risk associated with some school settings and activities, the 7-day isolation period will remain for staff, students and visitors who have tested positive to COVID-19 in:

- schools for specific purposes (SSPs)
- support units
- assisted transport
- overnight excursions.

Staff, students, and visitors may return to these higher risk settings after isolating for 7 days if they are symptom-free on their seventh day of isolation.

All staff, students and visitors who test positive to COVID-19 should continue to follow the <u>NSW Health</u> <u>guidelines</u> in addition to the department's <u>Response protocols</u> and <u>Advice for families</u>.

Finally, please be reminded that anyone displaying even the mildest of symptoms should stay at home, even if they return a negative RAT or PCR test. By staying home if unwell you'll help keep our school community safe and help us prioritise face-to-face learning throughout the rest of this term and into Term 4.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Avery Principal