



**Penola**  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
EST. 1995

22 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Victorian Government has announced important changes to the management of COVID-19 cases and close contacts in schools and other settings as we reach the 90% double dose milestone for eligible people in the coming days.

This means that students who are exposed persons (previously identified as close contacts in education settings) from an exposure at school, no longer have to quarantine for between 7 and 14 days. They can instead return immediately to school after providing evidence of a negative result from a standard PCR test to our school.

In exceptional circumstances the Department of Health may determine that close contacts in significant school outbreaks are still required to quarantine for seven days. In this scenario, students will be notified directly of any additional quarantine arrangements.

Over the weekend, there were two students that tested positive to COVID-19 and all close contacts have been notified via a text from the College to get a COVID test, isolate and then return to school when they receive a negative result.

### **Masks**

Masks are no longer required in secondary school settings but are recommended where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

### **Year 12 Graduation**

Density limits have been abolished and, as a result, I have great delight in inviting all fully vaccinated Year 12 parents to our Graduation Mass and Ceremony on Friday November 26. Melbourne Archdiocesan Catholic Schools (MACS) have issued a directive that parents must be fully vaccinated as the Graduation is being held on site. Parents will need to scan into the Assembly and Sports Hall and there will be members of staff acting as COVID Marshalls to check the vaccination status of parents.

The Graduation will commence at 6.00pm. in the Assembly and Sports Hall and we ask that students are present no later than 5.30pm. Limited parking will be available on site as there is a Calisthenics competition being held in the Performing Arts Centre at the same time. When parents drive through the gates at the Senior Campus they will need to turn left for the available parking and follow the directions of our staff who will assist with parking. Once the parking is full, parents arriving after this point will need to park in the surrounding streets.

Kind regards,

*Chris Caldwell*

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