

Monday 24 January 2022

Dear parent/caregiver

RE: MANAGEMENT OF POTENTIAL COVID CASES AT NIHS

Following my previous correspondence, I wish to provide information in relation to the management of COVID-19 cases in schools, as advised by SA Health and the Department for Education.

As you may be aware all schools will be implementing new contact tracing and close contact arrangements from Monday 31 January 2022. These new arrangements are outlined below and recognise the importance of continuing to provide quality education and care for our students while minimising the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Under these new arrangements **Norwood International High School will remain open if there is a case of COVID-19**. It is vitally important that families notify the school immediately on 8139 2110 if their child tests positive to COVID-19.

In the event that a student or teacher in your child's class tests positive for COVID-19, then your child will be deemed a classroom contact and the following procedure will occur:

- We will notify all parents in that class of the positive case
- All students and children without symptoms can continue attending school. No rapid antigen testing will be required.
- If your child develops any symptoms (even mild), please keep them home from school and get a COVID-19 test immediately. Notify us if it is positive.

Any student who has worked 1:1 with a COVID positive staff member (for more than 15 minutes, indoors and in close proximity without a mask) will be asked to complete 7 days of rapid antigen testing ('test to stay') each morning before attending school. In this situation the school will provide the family with the testing kits at no charge. Students that test positive must not attend school until after the required quarantine period.

Alternatively, if families do not wish for their child to complete the 7-day testing, they can quarantine for 7 days. The Department for Education is developing online learning resources for students in years 7-10 that can be completed during quarantine.

The Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) has recommended that classroom contacts should avoid attending extra-curricular-based activities (such as camps, excursions, interschool sport, choir, etc) for this 7-day period.

The CPHO has also advised classroom contacts should undertake the following measures to minimise risk to others, when outside of the school setting between days 1 to 14 of exposure:

- avoid high risk settings or COVID Management Plan events
- wear a surgical mask around others and outside the home
- avoid contact with vulnerable people outside of the school, workplace or family, where possible



**NORWOOD
INTERNATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL**

 505 The Parade,
Magill, South Australia,
Australia, 5072
PO Box 180

 +61 8 8364 2299

 dl.0787.info@
schools.sa.edu.au

 www.nihs.sa.edu.au

- avoid non-essential activities where possible (eg where there are lots people, inside and in close contact)
- avoid shared spaces and maintain physical distance.

Our staff will also undergo 7 days of rapid antigen testing ('test to stay') should they also be in a classroom with a student or colleague who tests positive.

It is vitally important that you please support our school community by:

- keeping your child/ren home if:
 - they are unwell
 - they are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms
 - any other member of the household has COVID-19
 - they are a close contact for a person who has COVID-19 and are required to quarantine
- notifying us immediately if your child/ren tests positive for COVID-19 on 8139 2110
- letting your child know they will be required to wear a face mask while indoors at school and on public transport to and from school. (NB The school will provide face masks to students who do not have one.)

At this stage these new settings will be in place from Monday 31 January until Friday 25 February (end of Week 4, Term 1). However, with the rapidly changing nature of this pandemic, these new arrangements may be reviewed or changed if needed. As always, we must all remain flexible and responsive to ensure the safety of our community.

I understand you may have a lot of questions about this information, however this is all that we know at this time. Please be assured that we will continue to provide you with further updates and additional information as soon as we receive it. We ask families to keep abreast of our communication as the situation evolves.

Thank you again for your understanding and support in implementing these temporary measures as we continue to adjust to this rapidly changing situation.

I wish you all good health and look forward to welcoming our students back to learning (either virtually or face-to-face) on Wednesday 2 February.

Yours sincerely



Jacqui van Ruiten
Principal