



St Edward's College

Level 3 Plus Staged Return Plan

Learning Delivery

St Edward's is required by Catholic Schools NSW and the Department of Education to adopt a cohort model from the outset of the return to face-to-face teaching, to provide a safe learning environment for students, minimise opportunities for transmission and enable the most effective contact tracing and containment measures in the event of a COVID-19 case.

The principles of a student cohort model are designed to:

- minimise unnecessary physical interaction between students on school grounds.
- minimise congestion on buses while travelling to and from school.
- ensure that students learn and engage as much as possible with those in their cohort.
- minimise opportunities for transmission and enhance contact tracing.
- minimise the potential for widespread infection across the school and wider school community.
- enable learning to be delivered effectively via face-to-face and home-based learning.
- facilitate opportunities for ongoing collaboration for staff, while delivering face-to-face and home-based learning.

The staged return will follow the timeline announced by the NSW Government with the following timetable established for Week 3 to Week 5 (Monday October 18 to Friday November 5). We have developed the schedule up until Week 5 to allow for the potential modification beyond this point. We will continue to monitor the Health Advice provided by the NSW Government and Catholic Schools NSW, as well as the NESA advice regarding conducting COVID-Safe HSC Examinations in planning for Week 6 and beyond. The timetable may also be modified during this time in response to any changes made by the NSW Government. Parents will be informed of the plan for Week 6 and beyond as soon as possible.

The timetable includes a balance between an equitable return to face-to-face teaching and Home-Based Learning. While students are on-campus, they will revert to our normal five period timetable, with additional classes to be scheduled on Friday afternoon for Year 7-11 when they are on-campus. While students are participating in Home-Based Learning, they will continue with the current timetabled arrangements with a no classes scheduled during the period three timeslot for Years 7-10 or Friday afternoons.

Week 3				
Monday October 18 - Friday October 22				
Year 7-11 Continue Home -Based Learning				
Monday October 18	Tuesday October 19	Wednesday October 20	Thursday October 21	Friday October 22
Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12





Week 4 Monday October 25 – Friday October 29 On days when Year groups are not scheduled on-campus, students will continue with Home-Based Learning				
Monday October 25	Tuesday October 26	Wednesday October 27	Thursday October 28	Friday October 29
Year 12 Year 11 Year 7	Year 12 Year 11 Year 8	Year 12 Year 11 Year 9	Year 12 Year 11 Year 10	Year 12* Year 11** (Year 7-10 HBL)***

* On Friday October 29 (Week 4) Year 12 will not have lessons scheduled during the afternoon.

** Year 11 will commence their Friday afternoon classes which will appear on teacher and student timetables.

*** Years 7-10 will participate in Home Based Learning on this day.

Week 5 Monday November 1 – Friday November 5 Year 12 Private Study Week - Teachers available online during timetabled lesson On days when Year groups are not scheduled on-campus, students will continue with Home-Based Learning				
Monday November 1	Tuesday November 2	Wednesday November 3	Thursday November 4	Friday November 5
Year 11 Year 8 Year 7	Year 11 Year 10 Year 9	Year 11 Year 10 Year 9	Year 11 Year 8 Year 7	Year 11 Year 8 Year 7

COVID Vaccinations

- The NSW Government has released a Public Health Order legislating that all permanent, part time and casual staff, contractors, volunteers and practicum students must be fully vaccinated by November 8 or provide a medical contraindication certificate from a medical practitioner.
- St Edward's will be complying with this Public Health Order.
- Eligible high school students are encouraged to have received two doses of vaccine before their return to face-to-face learning. The College understands that this is a personal choice for families and it will not be a requirement for students to be vaccinated to attend school nor will they be asked for their vaccination status. (Parents who are concerned about this protocol are encouraged to contact the College Principal via email principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au)

Masks and Face Coverings

- NSW Health advice requires that all staff must wear a face mask or covering at all times including when working outdoors –this includes in playgrounds and elsewhere on school grounds.
- While at school, appropriate face masks are required in all indoor and outdoor settings for all students in Year 7 and above.





- Students will be required to bring their own mask to school.
- Students who, for medical reasons, cannot wear a mask must provide a medical certificate explaining their condition.
- Students are required to wear a face mask while travelling to and from school by bus.

Student Attendance

- It is the expectation that students attend school on days scheduled for face-to-face lessons.
- It is the expectation that students continue to participate in Home-Based Learning when not at school.
- Teachers will adopt a one mode of delivery approach to teaching and learning on scheduled days of face-to-face teaching, teaching only students in attendance in class.
- Lesson information will be available on the College Portal for students who do not attend.
- Parents are reminded of the need to inform the College if your son will not be attending school.
- Students not attending school on the scheduled day will be marked absent.
- Supervision will continue to be provided, for students of parents who are essential workers, on days scheduled for Home-Based Learning.

Pick up and Drop Off

- It is understandable that parents may be concerned about their son catching a bus to school.
- If you intend on dropping off or picking up your son, you are asked to do this at the Frederick Street entrance (top entrance) to the College.
- Parents will not be permitted on site.
- If your son is ill or injured whilst at school, you will be provided with instructions from the Office staff about collecting your son from school.
- Parents are encouraged to not allow their son to be dropped off or picked up from school by someone outside their household.

Health Hygiene and Safety Protocols

- We have employed additional cleaning personnel to work throughout the day to clean restroom facilities, unused classrooms and high touch areas regularly and students will be asked to wipe down their desk and laptop at the end of each lesson.
- Practices associated with physical distancing will be promoted where possible, but parents must understand that this will not generally be achievable as the number of students on site increases and particularly when students are travelling to and from school.
- Hand sanitising stations are located at several locations around the College and students are encouraged to regularly sanitise their hands, on arrival, before and after breaks and prior to boarding buses.
- Any students or staff who display any signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) are not permitted to attend school. The College will take a strong stance on sending home any staff member or student who presents with any of the signs and symptoms as per the Government Department of Health website advice: fever, coughing, sore throat, shortness of breath.

Ventilation

- The College adheres to a strict maintenance program for all ventilation and air conditioning systems. This program has been intensified with the introduction of a more regular cleaning and maintenance regime to ensure to maximise their efficiency in introducing fresh air and removing stale air from learning spaces.
- In rooms which do not have air conditioning, windows and doors will remain open.
- Where possible lessons may be conducted outside.
- Lessons will be timetabled into larger classrooms where possible to promote physical distancing.





Canteen Facilities

- The College canteen will commence operation on Monday October 25.
- The College is working closely with the canteen operator to ensure that all hygiene measures are in place.
- All canteen staff must adhere to the Vaccination Public Health Order.
- A staggered approach to releasing students from class will be adopted to promote physical distancing at recess and lunch.

School Based Activities Permitted

- Drama is permitted in line with COVID-safe practices within classes in outdoor spaces.
- Physical Activity in PD/H/PE lessons is permitted in accordance with physical distancing guidelines.

Activities not permitted

- Friday afternoon Activities is not permitted under these guidelines and students scheduled to attend face-to-face classes on Fridays will have regular lessons timetabled.
- Singing, chanting, group repetition and choirs.
- School performances, productions, concerts, speech nights and award presentations.
- Bands and ensembles.
- Excursions, camps and field trips.
- All external providers and specialist programs not directly related to educational outcomes and support.
- Interschool activities and events including sport, gala days and carnivals.

Action Plan in response to a member of the community testing positive to COVID-19

We have established an action plan to implement in consultation with NSW Health, if a member of the St Edward's community tests positive and we are notified of this during school time. A positive notification may require the College to be closed to allow contact tracing and thorough cleaning of facilities. The following information summarises this plan.

1. Parents will be notified via SMS, email, the College App and Facebook that a member of the community has tested positive and the school is required to close immediately.
2. Classes will be suspended.
3. Senior students who drive to school and students who walk home will be permitted to make their own way home.
4. NSW Health has advised that no student will be permitted to travel home on College or Public buses.
5. Students will be supervised in designated areas of the college in a physically distant manner and parents will be required to make arrangements to pick up their son from school as quickly as possible. It is hoped that this can be done within a two-hour period from notification.
6. Students will be permitted to use their mobile phones to coordinate their pickup time.
7. Parents are asked to meet their son at the Russel Drysdale (lower) entry to the school. No student will be able to leave via the Frederick Street (top) entry as these gates will be locked.
8. No parents or members of the public will be permitted on site.
9. Additional staff will be redeployed to answer phone calls to assist this process.
10. Updates will continue to be provided via email throughout the day.
11. On the following day, students will recommence Home-Based Learning until the school becomes operational again.





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If we are notified outside of school time, families will be notified via SMS, email, the College App and Facebook. Regular updates will follow, and students will recommence Home-Based Learning until the school becomes operational again.

We understand that it may be difficult for some families to pick up their son if we are required to implement this action plan and we ask that families discuss contingencies so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The accuracy of parent contact details is critical to the effectiveness of this plan. Therefore, I ask that parents check the accuracy of contact details on the Parent Portal ensuring that your most current details are listed.

Mark Bonnici
College Principal



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