



11 October 2021

St Edward's College

Level 3 Plus Staged Return Plan

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

The NSW Premier announced last week a change to the timeline for the commencement of a staggered return of students to face-to-face teaching. The new timeline is now:

- Year 12 return Monday October 18,
- Year 7-11 commence staggered return from Monday October 25.

This return will be governed by Level 3 Plus guidelines and the detail of the St Edward's plan for this return will be released to families tomorrow. I believe it important that parents are aware that the guidelines that govern the return are established by the NSW Government. These guidelines have not been clearly explained in any of the press conferences or media releases by the Government but are available at [Level 3 Plus Schools](#).

The guidelines outline protocols associated with the staggered return and the plan developed by the College continues to place the health and safety of students and staff at the forefront of decision making. Factors that have been considered include: the principles of a cohort approach to a return, staff and student COVID vaccinations, physical distancing, cleaning and hygiene regulation, wearing of masks, ventilation, HSC Examination protocols and permissible activities.

It is important that parents are aware for their own planning that from October 25, students in Years 7-11 will not be returning altogether. To ensure that we can maintain appropriate physical distancing and minimise the mixing of cohorts, we will be limiting the number of students onsite to three-year groups at a time and a clear timetable will be part of the detailed plan that you receive. Due to the constantly changing COVID environment, we will release a timetable that covers the first three weeks of the staged return. This will allow the College to evaluate measures that have been introduced as well as respond to any further advice beyond this point. Parents will continue to be provided with updates on a weekly basis.

We look forward to welcoming students back to learning on campus, but it is important that we carefully and cautiously plan this return. I ask parents take time to carefully read the plan and discuss with your son, the detail and implications for your own family, when it is released. I encourage students to continue to engage in their learning online to the best of their ability until we return.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 4321 6400, or at principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au if you have any questions or would like to discuss the information outlined in this letter.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bonnici
College Principal

