



## Parent Letter No 17- Covid-19 Update 8 October 2021

## TIMETABLE: for Week 2, Term IV

Dear St Leo's Community,

I hope you had the opportunity for some down time from the hectic pace of work or school over the past couple of weeks, particularly over the long weekend.

Given the latest announcement from our new Premier yesterday, the College is currently working on a plan for your young person to be back on site in accordance with the recommendations. Our focus will be on **safety, wellbeing and learning** and will be distributed mid next week.

Currently the Return to school dates are:

**Year 12 (2021) - Monday 18 October**

**Yr 12 (2022), Year 10, Year 9, Year 8 and Intake 2021 - Monday 25 October.**

### Welcome!

#### New Students

A special welcome to three new students who started with us this week:

- **Charlotte B (Year 12, 2022)**
- **David M (Year 8)**
- **Callum T (Intake 2021)**

So if you see some new student faces on your Zooms in the next week or so, please make them feel welcome!

#### New Member of Staff

I would like to welcome **Mr Samuel Groom** to our College Staff. Sam is a recent targeted graduate from the ACU (Australian Catholic University) where he majored in English and History. Sam successfully completed his professional experience here at the College in Term III, under the leadership of Ms Spencer. He is very much looking forward to joining the team to make a difference in our young people's lives. Welcome Mr Groom!

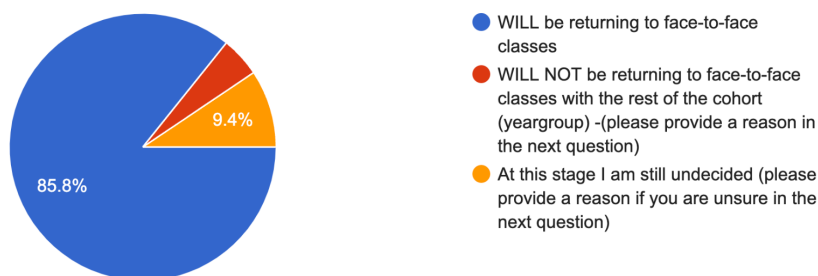


## Return to School Update (Survey Feedback)

Thank you to those **415 people** who kindly responded to the survey I distributed last Friday evening. We wanted to ensure that you had an opportunity to let us know your intentions and concerns around the return to school. For transparency and interest, here is the feedback from the survey:

Q1) When the College returns to face-to-face delivery of the curriculum, my child/ren:

415 responses

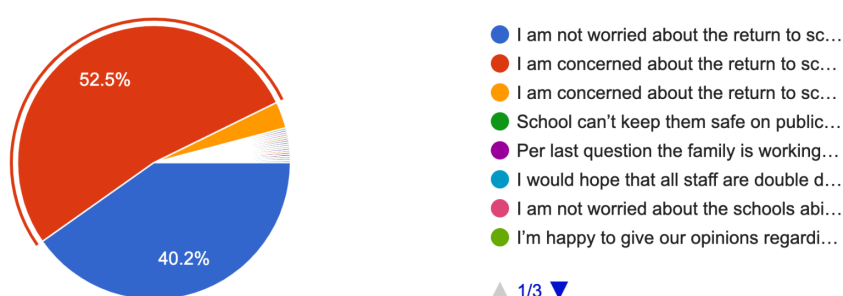


### Q2 - Which of the following best describes your level of concern regarding return to school?

- **53%** of respondents were concerned about the return to school, however believed that the College will do all it can to keep their child/children safe.
- **40%** of respondents were not worried about the return to school and believed the College would be as safe as possible for their children.
- **3%** were concerned about the return to school and that the College would not be able to keep their child/children safe.
- A further **4%** gave a variety of answers with concerns around public transport, level of vaccinations, whole community responsibilities etc.

Q2) Which of the following best describes your level of concern regarding return to school?

415 responses



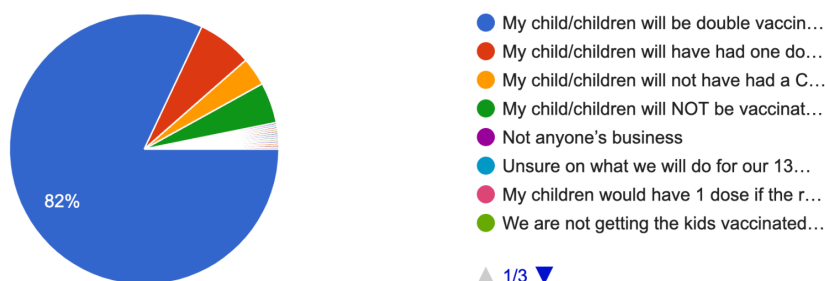
### Q3) Regarding travel to and from school:

415 responses



### Q4) Regarding Student Vaccinations (optional question)

412 responses



As I have already alluded to, the theme of our plan is *Safety, Wellbeing and Learning*. It will incorporate details of what students will be required to do prior to coming to school, once here on site and arrangements for pick up/transport at the end of the day.

I want to reassure all families that we are working to ensure the school site is as safe as it can be and we are following all the health requirements, including

- extra cleaning,
- ventilation in rooms,
- masks,
- sign-in procedures,
- use of spaces,
- restrictions of activities,
- non-essential visitors and
- physical distancing.

I would also like to encourage as many students as possible to be vaccinated.

## Year 12 (2021) & HSC Update

As our Year 12 (2021) students move into Zone Three of their 5-stage journey to their HSC, we keep them in our prayers and thoughts. We will be welcoming them back to the College on Monday week - 18 October. There will be opportunities for them to reconnect with their peers, the staff and the College. There will also be an




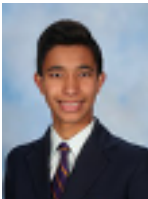
opportunity for students to practice past papers in preparation for the HSC on Friday 15th October and Friday 22nd October - there will be both AM and PM sessions. A letter will be sent next week outlining *Zone Three Return* for Year 12 students.

Last evening we conducted a Zoom meeting with parents and students around the Graduation and Formal events. Thank you to those who participated. The results will be published in the Year 12 letter next week.

Yesterday the group was also briefed about next Tuesday, 12 October, which will be dedicated to Year 12 wellbeing and HSC planning/preparation. One of our College Leadership Team will check in with each individual student via Zoom or phone call to connect, mentor and discuss how we can best support each student for the remainder of their St Leo's journey. No classes will be scheduled for Year 12 on this day.

## Our 2022 Student Leaders

Congratulations again to our incoming 2022 Student Leadership Team who were announced via email to the College community recently. We look forward to acknowledging these worthy leaders with an induction ceremony as soon as restrictions allow.

|                                  |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>College Captains</b>          | <b>Rhianna K &amp; Rivan R</b><br>  |   | <b>College Vice Captains</b><br>  |
| <b>SRC Ambassadors</b>           | <b>Sylvie P &amp; William B</b>   |   |   |
| <b>Growth Domain Ambassadors</b> | Spiritual GD Ambassadors<br><b>Rose B &amp; Matteo D</b>  | Physical GD Ambassadors<br><b>Jade L &amp; Connor D</b>         | Academic GD Ambassadors<br><b>Sofie H &amp; Xander Y</b>  |
|                                  | Cultural GD Ambassadors<br><b>Rene'e S &amp; Adam B</b>   | Environmental GD Ambassadors<br><b>Hannah B &amp; Matthew B</b> | Social Emotional GD Ambassadors<br><b>Chloe E &amp; Mattia C</b>  |
| <b>House Ambassadors</b>         | Xavier House Ambassadors<br><b>Ruby G &amp; Joshua F</b>  | Loyola House Ambassadors<br><b>Salvatore S &amp; Oliver G</b>   | Chanel House Ambassadors<br><b>Grace B &amp; Ali B</b>  |
|                                  | Aquinas House Ambassadors<br><b>Aidan J &amp; James B</b>   | MacKillop House Ambassadors<br><b>Casey G &amp; Ethan W</b>     | Bakhita House Ambassadors<br><b>Maddison B &amp; Hamish S</b>   |



|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | McAuley House<br>Ambassadors<br><b>Taryn K &amp; Harrison L</b> | Teresa House<br>Ambassadors<br><b>Alyssa P &amp; Liam H</b> |  |
|--|---|---|--|

## Years 10 and Yr 12 (2022) Retreats

As per the CSNSW (Catholic School NSW) Roadmap - the **Years 10 and Yr 12 (2022) Retreats** that were listed at *The Tops Conference Centre* later this term have had to be cancelled and will not be able to be held. Any monies paid for these activities will be adjusted on your next school fee statement. It is envisaged that our regular Retreat and Camp program can resume in 2022.

## Summer Uniforms & the end of our Transition Period

As we prepare to return to campus, parents are no doubt checking uniforms. A reminder that students will be in **summer uniforms** but also that this is the final Term of our three year transition period into the 'new' uniform. This means that **from the start of Term 1 2022, all year groups should be in the new uniform** - Intake 2022 to Year 9 in junior uniforms and Years 10-12 in senior uniforms.

Second hand 'old uniform' items will shortly be removed from [sustainableschoolshop.com.au](https://sustainableschoolshop.com.au), although second hand 'new uniform' items will continue to be available. The Uniform Exchange no longer sells second hand St Leo's uniforms.

With the end of the transition period in mind as well as the current circumstances, we are conscious that some students (mainly Year 9) may no longer have particular items, so will allow these students to return to campus in their sports uniforms if necessary for the remainder of the Term.

## Parent Webinar: 'Parenting in a Pandemic'

CSBB has arranged a free webinar for parents to be hosted by parenting author, educator and resilience specialist **Maggie Dent** looking at ways to address some of the many long-term impacts of the pandemic on families. It will include information on building children's strength and resilience with small steps to prepare for the transitional months ahead and includes two free eBooks.

Parents will need to register for a COUPON CODE via email [catholicschoolparents@dbb.org.au](mailto:catholicschoolparents@dbb.org.au). Visit [Practical Parenting in a Pandemic](#) for more information.



## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards



Congratulations to **Spencer C** and **Danielle P** in Year 9 who both recently completed their Bronze Award for Duke of Edinburgh. They are both intending to continue their journey and start completing their Silver Award.

## A Mullet for Mental Health

Congratulations also to **Jackson M** (Year 9) who participated in *Mullets for Mental Health* during lockdown, raising awareness and over **\$1100** for the **Black Dog Institute**. **Well done Jackson!** We are sure you are now keen for a much needed haircut, as many of us are! Given his effort - *Jackson can show us all on Monday 25 Oct! (But he is the only one! :))*



## Student Wellbeing Check-in's

We continue to survey students on a weekly basis to monitor their mental health and wellbeing. Please encourage your young person to complete this survey during mentor time on Tuesday.

## Wellbeing Resource Pack

The College has put together the fourth edition of its Wellbeing Resource Pack. [Please click here to access this resource.](#)

## New Phone App to Support Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing

The Federal Government recently launched the Raising Healthy Children app. Developed by the Raising Children Network, this free phone app supports the mental health literacy and confidence of parents regarding the social and emotional wellbeing of their children. The app targets parents with children aged 12 years and younger, and is available via Android and iOS app stores.

## Daily Student Notices

There was an issue with Compass that wouldn't enable us to send out the daily notices to our parent/carer community. However, this has been rectified and as of Monday, the Daily Notices will be sent to parents/carers as well. Please accept our apologies for any inconveniences that this may have caused.



## Reminder: School Fee Assistance

Again a reminder that fee assistance is available to families who may need help with school fees. Contact the **CSBB Fee Liaison Team** via [schoolfees@dbb.org.au](mailto:schoolfees@dbb.org.au) or 9847 0728.

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All College communications concerning Covid-19 (i.e. **Letters Nos 1-16**) are also listed on the [Remote Learning page of the College website for your reference.](#)

*We are very conscious of the impact this lockdown will have on our staff, students and families. We are in regular contact with Catholic Schools NSW and will keep you updated as further information is available.*

***Thank you for your support of our school. Our prayers are with you and please stay safe!***

**Tony Gleeson**  
**Principal**