



26th July 2021

Dear Emmaus families and friends

I write to you today to provide an update in relation to schooling as the 7 day SA lockdown draws to a close. It is my hope and prayer that the last week has been a safe time for your family and the impact financially, socially, and medically has not been overly burdensome. As always, if challenging personal circumstances exist, I ask you to reach out to the College. I hope this period has also given you the opportunity to obtain your 4-yearly (5?) dose of equestrian, judo, swimming, and for the first-time skateboarding!

This afternoon, the SA Premier announced that from midnight Tuesday 27th July, the 'Stay At Home' order (hard lockdown) ends however emphasised the following:

- We are NOT out of the 'danger-zone'.
- We will NOT exit the lockdown at the same level of restrictions enjoyed prior.
- There WILL need to be a gradual easing of restrictions in the season ahead.

It is clear that the far from under control circumstances remaining in NSW has the entire country on high alert as the Delta Strain now spreads into regional NSW. Of the 145 new cases in NSW today, 51 remained actively out in the community, a similar situation to previous days.

Although I am excited to share that from Wednesday morning (28th July), face to face teaching resumes at Emmaus (South Plympton, Brooklyn Park & ELC), in the words of the Premier above, it will NOT be back to 'normal' yet for some time. Please also be aware that from Wednesday the 28th July our Bus, Canteen and OSHC services will also resume at our South Plympton campus.

Over the next 24 hours, each Head of School / ELC Director will be in contact with you / your child in relation to any specific arrangements leading up to the recommencement of face to face teaching Wednesday morning. With respect to the nature of the restrictions in place from Wednesday, I direct you to the SA Health website for full details <https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au> however below outlines the specific arrangements in place for the season ahead at Emmaus specifically (in place from this Wednesday morning):

- Please do NOT send your child to school with even the mildest 'cold' symptoms. Please understand and respect that the College will immediately contact you to take any child home exhibiting such symptoms.
- Other than ELC parents (see below), we are asking that all students (F to Year 12) are dropped off and collected at the 'school gate' (parents are not to enter the school site). Mrs Vonow will communicate further in relation to this element for Junior School students.
- Parents wishing to contact College Administration / Student Services are asked, if possible, to do this by phone / email rather than in person. Where this is not possible, parents are asked to wear a mask and check in using the QR code system (and not proceed if unwell).
- As face to face teaching and learning resumes on Wednesday, remote learning will conclude at the same time as teachers will once again be physically with their classes.
- There will also be a range of changes at the College reflecting the reintroduction of the 1 person per 4M squared rule. This will impact all school events involving parents in the season ahead as well as a review on student gathering density within the College (such as assemblies).



- All school events (excursions / camps / sports) will be assessed on a case by case basis under the guidelines applicable at the time, however in the immediate future expect little or any such events to proceed as previously planned.

The goal of the above measures is to ensure the safety of all within our community, but also for the blessing of face to face education at Emmaus to continue (compared to remote).

With respect to ELC drop off / pick up, I share a special arrangement from Wednesday (due to the young age of the children). During 'peak' drop off and pick up times (8.20am - 8.45am and 2.55pm - 3.15pm) a staff member will be at the ELC door to limit the number of parents into the breezeway. Please allow extra time for this to occur. During this time, the iPad will be located outside to limit the time parents are inside the building. Masks are to be worn by the parent or guardian dropping children off when they enter the school grounds. Staff will meet parents at the entrance of the classrooms and will also be wearing a mask while briefly sharing information about your child's day. More in-depth information and further specific conversations regarding a child's learning will all be done via phone or email. Please always maintain social distancing when in the breezeway and leave the breezeway as soon as possible. Lauren Hughes (ELC Director) will put out further correspondence specific to the ELC children and families.

Finally, if you, your child(ren), or anyone sharing your immediate residence has been required by Health SA to self-isolate / quarantine, please notify Debby Scheepers on 8292 3820 ASAP so the respective Head of School / ELC Director can make the necessary individual learning arrangements with you on a case by case basis.

If you have any specific questions in relation to the above arrangements for Wednesday, I ask that you please firstly wait for follow up written information to be provided by the respective Head of School / ELC Director over the next 24 hours. On behalf of the College I would like to thank you all for your support at this challenging time.

Blessings,

Andrew Linke
Principal