

17 November 2020

Dear Emmaus family and friends

Following over 6 months of no COVID-19 community transmission in South Australia you will likely be well aware of the current changed circumstances we find ourselves in as a State. Although this morning only one additional new case of community transmission was added to the tally, it is too early to predict exactly how this will unfold over the days / weeks ahead.

As of midnight last night (for the next 2 weeks at this stage), the newly announced COVID restrictions in SA apply (refer to the below link for details).

<https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/restrictions-and-responsibilities/activities-and-gatherings>

Although, at this stage, schools will remain open and day-to-day teaching experiences will generally not be impacted, activities and gatherings outside of the usual classroom may be affected by these new restrictions. Please also be aware that if a positive case is identified within the immediate Emmaus community, it is likely SA Health will order the closure of the College for 'deep-cleaning' and contact tracing to take place. This usually takes 2-3 days before school can resume (other than for those who may be required to self-isolate for 14 days). Please frequently check your messages during the evenings / mornings as it is possible any such closure will be communicated outside of usual business hours.

At this stage, the following COVID-19 related practices will remain:

- Parents are still permitted to enter the school grounds for pick up and drop off but not enter classrooms. This position will be reviewed if community transmission rates increase
- Parents are not to gather / congregate at student drop off / pick up times
- Parents are not to enter the school grounds if unwell, and students are not to attend school if unwell (even slight symptoms)
- Good personal hygiene practices are to remain (please refresh your children on these to support the work our teachers are also doing in this area)

What will be different under the new rules:

*(it is not my intention to replicate all the rules in the above link, but in principle)*

- The 4M squared rule is again in place for gathering density
- The cap on maximum gathering capacity now ranges from 10 / 50 / 100 depending on circumstances
- No community sports / training (of any form)

Collectively the above new restrictions will likely impact the ability for any events involving the gathering of parents over the next two weeks to take place. As you will be aware, there are a number of such events planned over the next 2 weeks.

The College is expecting further information and guidelines to be provided today by AISSA (Association of Independent Schools of South Australia) in relation to such matters. This afternoon, College Leadership are scheduled to meet to review all College events over the next 2 weeks according to these new guidelines and determine which events:

- Are able to proceed
- Can be modified to comply with COVID requirements
- Will need to be cancelled

Further information about these events will be communicated with the College community as soon as is possible.



**Emmaus**  
Christian College

I would like to thank you for your prayer, support, understanding, and patience at this challenging time. Although the school year in South Australia has generally been unaffected by COVID-19, we will likely see some further impact in the closing stages of the year.

Blessings .

**Andrew Linke**  
**Principal**