



29 March 2021

Dear parents and carers in our Catholic school communities

As you know Greater Brisbane goes into COVID lockdown from 5pm tonight (Monday) and this will extend until 5pm Thursday at this stage. There are several considerations for our school communities.

1. If you have been in the Greater Brisbane area since 20 March, you must go into lockdown from 5pm tonight. This also includes students. This does not extend to members of family who have not been in Brisbane. This means you should only leave home for a range of essential reasons- shopping for essentials, medical needs, exercise with no more than one other person, and care or assistance to an immediate family member, and a small number of other exemptions. If you have undergone COVID testing due to the contact tracing alert for Brisbane and have received a negative test result, you will still need to observe the 3 day lockdown period.
2. By far the biggest change has been the requirement for mask wearing in all indoor public spaces throughout Queensland. Although there are exceptions for our school staff when they can physically distance, parents and other visitors to our schools will need to wear masks when on site. To assist with reducing the risk in the community, parents will not be allowed onsite at pickup or drop off times, with the exception of parents of prep, first year and higher needs students. With students being a lower risk, school staff are exempted from mask wearing when in class. Students will not be required to wear masks when on private school transport but will be required to wear a mask if on a public bus service or in other public areas.
3. Please review your travel plans for the coming holiday period. Travel to Greater Brisbane and interstate is subject to changing restrictions – you may not be able to return without quarantining.
4. Interstate excursions have been cancelled.
5. Your school or college will advise of changes to any student assessment this week.

Although the mask wearing across the state is quite unprecedented, the outbreak in Brisbane is from the highly contagious UK variant, so the additional cautions are warranted.

As always complacency is our worst enemy – be aware of the emerging Queensland Health advice, maintain COVID-safe practices, and get tested immediately if you develop flu like symptoms.

Hopefully through care and diligence this latest outbreak can be brought under control.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Bill Dixon  
Executive Director

