

COVID Update 3

8 February 2022

Dear parent/carer

Further to my previous COVID-19 communications, you may have seen the announcement of the high caseload settings in place across WA as of today, Tuesday 8 February 2022. This includes additional measures to keep our schools open and providing face-to-face learning to your children.

On direction of the Chief Health Officer and Department of Education's updated Operating Guidelines, parents and carers can **no longer enter classrooms**, including to volunteer.

Volunteering in the canteen or at the uniform shop is still permitted, while following the WA Government mask wearing mandates, and physical distancing from other adults.

Please note, you are allowed on school grounds for drop-off and pick-up in outdoor locations, but please physically distance, avoid gathering where possible and follow mask wearing requirements.

We are currently planning and implementing further ways to minimise the risk of COVID-19 entering or being transmitted at school including:

- moving parent-teacher interviews to online or over the phone;
- changing indoor face-to-face events;
- cancelling or postponing school camps;
- limiting the mingling of groups; and
- possible modifications to timetables, break times, and pick-up/drop-off times, may come into place.

We are working through these changes and you will receive further communications as the details are confirmed. For more information on the high caseload protocols visit <u>WA.gov.au</u>. Thank you for your understanding as we take the necessary steps to keep our school safe and open for learning.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 9041 7520.

Tracy Pickering Principal

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Merredin College

