



## COVID-19 School Policy – 2023

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| Relevant to:                | All staff, parents and care givers of students, students, anyone entering a TVSS site. |
| Developed by:               | Business Manager, College Executive, and School Council                                |
| Date of Introduction:       | March 2020   |
| Date of Most Recent Review: | <b>January 2023</b>  |
| Date for Review:            | 2024   |
| Approved:                   | <b>School Board Mar23</b>  |
| Related Documents:          | <b>Infectious disease Policy and Procedure, DECYP 2023 COVID-Safe Plan</b>             |

### PURPOSE & RATIONALE

The school will implement the following practices to continue to ensure the health and safety of the TVSS school community in relation to the risk posed by COVID-19.

### TVSS OBJECTIVE

TVSS is committed to:

- ensuring the health and well-being of our school community
- providing continuity of education
- maintaining a sense of normalcy for all students
- adhering to current government guidelines and carrying out appropriate practices

### GENERAL STATEMENT

Unless otherwise mandated, TVSS will continue to welcome all parents and care givers on site as long as they are well and support the COVID safe practices nominated below. Whilst the school does not mandate it, the majority of TVSS staff are vaccinated

TVSS will review and update this policy as required due to a change in government policy and / or a change in the Covid outbreak situation in the community.

As of 2023, the ongoing risk has been assessed as low

### COVID SAFE PRACTICES

#### 1. Practices being implemented / maintained at the school include:

- Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. Staff, parents and visitors are advised not to attend if they are unwell.
- Any student or staff member presenting with any flu-like symptoms (temperature, sore throat, cough, sniffles, headache) and also other symptoms which may indicate COVID in children (tummy complaints including nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea), muscle and joint pain and being uncharacteristically lethargic) will be asked to go home. Parents of students will be contacted, and children will be required to be collected in a timely manner.

**At the St Leonards campus** - If these symptoms are observed, children will be sent directly to the office where they will wait to be collected.

**At the French St campus** – Depending on the weather and circumstances, the child will

either stay inside to wait to be collected, or if it is comfortable, wait outside. A staff member will stay with the child until they are collected. Additional supervision may be required and will be arranged by the Principal as needed.

- TVSS will continue to ensure that thorough cleaning is undertaken, including the regular wiping down and cleaning of communal surfaces and will maintain a Covid cleaning check list.
- Students and staff will be encouraged to regularly wash hands with soap and water throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available at the office and in classrooms.
- Currently:
  - It is not mandatory for staff and visitors to wear face masks indoors, however TVSS fully supports anyone who wishes to wear one.
  - No primary school children are required to wear face masks.
- Testing – Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are available at school for students and staff. Families are encouraged to maintain a supply of RATs in case you become unwell.
- Good ventilation is promoted through natural airflow where possible. Mechanical equipment (air purifiers) are used to promote airflow and improve ventilation.
- Outdoor learning will be utilized where possible and the school will plan upgrades to make outdoor learning possible.
- Activities – all school activities can occur as long as the risks associated with COVID-19 are managed. This includes excursions (day and overnight), school camps, festivals, school plays, assemblies, class/parent meetings and staff meetings and professional development. Additional consideration may be required to ventilation, ensuring masks are readily available. When attending public areas, additional cleaning by school staff of areas such as public toilets may be required (e.g. at bush school).
- Vulnerable students and staff – following COVID safe practices is important to help protect the vulnerable. Additional measures may be required upon a risk assessment to protect students known to be medically vulnerable, such as staff wearing face masks.
- The School commits to maintaining up to date COVID safety practices via:
  - Monitoring public health advice
  - Monitoring IST advice on COVID management in schools