



15 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers K-12

COVID-19 Update - New Information

For the return to Term 3, students in both day and boarding situations in NSW were able to travel to return to school, including from Greater Sydney, but not to be involved in the community for non-essential reasons until completing fourteen days' stay at home (including boarding residences) to access community activities. We followed these recommendations from NSW Health in full for this to occur, which included added diligence for those from Greater Sydney before being able to return.

This situation has now shifted once again, with new updated advice in the past twenty-four hours after additional consultation with NSW Health and AISNSW. That is, our Greater Sydney boarders who have not completed the fourteen days' stay at home are now being asked to do so differently before returning to full interaction in their day and boarding routines, as an added precaution.

Those students affected by the updated advice have already commenced accessing virtual classes per the timetable via Zoom for their learning, and will not be in classes until the stay-at-home period is completed for 14 days. Those boarders will also have a separate common room and meal times, with other arrangements in place to accommodate the updated situation. The wellbeing of all our students remains our highest priority acknowledging the different circumstances whilst endeavouring to care for all. Further communication on the details for those boarders involved will be provided separately with adjustments to routines, accessing learning and general information.

Additional COVID-19 testing remains part of the approach prior to, during and concluding the fourteen-day stay-at-home period, as well as advice from NSW Health on the benefits of testing throughout the fourteen-day period. Any student or staff commencing at SMGS from Thursday 15th July will be required to complete the stay-at-home period (outside of Greater Sydney or other similarly restricted areas) prior to accessing school in either day or boarding, whilst the current Public Health Orders are in place, as they are presently unless otherwise advised or updated by NSW Health.

If you have any additional queries on this information, please contact in the first instance:

- Ms Heidi Shvetsoff (Head of Junior School) - heidi.shvetsoff@smgs.nsw.edu.au
- Mrs Jennifer Thompson (Head of Middle School) - jennifer.thompson@smgs.nsw.edu.au
- Mrs Kelli Wilson (Head of Senior School) - kelli.wilson@smgs.nsw.edu.au

Thank you to our staff, students and parents/carers, who continue to adapt so very well during what have proved again to be challenging times. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for the overwhelmingly positive support and understanding as we work together to provide the best possible experience for all students, despite a multitude of circumstances to consider. We all look forward to returning to greater certainty and fewer restrictions ahead soon and enjoying all that Snowy Mountains Grammar School has to offer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A Bell". The letters are stylized and cursive.

Dr Andrew Bell

PRINCIPAL