

Dear Families,

I trust this communication finds you well.

I write to update previous information provided to you regarding COVID-19 and the procedures undertaken at Gleeson College in accordance with SA Health directives.

Change to definition of re-infection period for COVID-19

In line with new national standards, SA Health have announced a change in the defined re-infection period for COVID-19. Up until now a person who had recovered from COVID-19 was not required to test or quarantine, regardless of symptoms, in the 30 days after their isolation period ended.

This has now been extended to 8 weeks.

This means that any person who comes into contact with COVID-19 after 4 March 2022, and who has recovered from COVID-19 previously, will not be regarded as a close contact and should not test during the 8 weeks immediately following their isolation period ending. They should however stay home if they are symptomatic, for the duration of symptoms.

For further information see the SA Health website at <https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid-19/testing+and+tracing/close+contacts> or call the SA Health COVID-19 Information Line on **1800 253 787** between 8am and 8pm daily.

What does this change to 8 weeks mean for mask wearing?

Masks are nevertheless required to be worn in education settings by adults and secondary students, even those who are in the 8-week period following their isolation period ending.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and care givers for their prompt attention to informing the college of any positive cases arising in their families. We have had some reports of positive cases on Mondays which may have tested positive on Friday night or over the weekend. ***Could I please ask that all families inform the college as soon as a positive test result is received by emailing absentee@gleeson.catholic.edu.au.*** This will ensure that we are able to pass on information more quickly to affected parties.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I hope to have more information as to how the SA COVID Education Plan will progress before the end of Week 8 this term.

Kind regards,

Mr J Corbo
Principal