25 January 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

COVID UPDATE FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF TERM 1

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and healthy. With the increase in the number of COVID cases within the wider community, it is important that the College continues to prioritise student and staff wellbeing.

A number of COVID-smart settings will remain in place for this term. COVID-smart settings for St Dominic's College include:

- Staff and students are strongly encouraged not to attend school if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19. These include fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, muscle/joint pains, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, extreme tiredness, unexplained chest pain or conjunctivitis (eye infection)

- If symptoms occur at any time, you should undertake a Rapid Antigen Test. If a Rapid Antigen Test is positive you/your child should isolate as someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 (Refer to the NSW Health website)

- Maximising natural ventilation

- Encouraging good hygiene practices including regular hand washing with soap and water

- Encouraging all to keep up to date with vaccinations, including COVID-19 booster shots when eligible and the flu vaccine

If you are a Close Contact?

The current advice is that staff and students who are identified as close contacts are allowed to attend school, providing they follow certain guidelines which includes conducting a daily RAT and returning a negative result before attending a school. Parents and Caregivers can seek additional information from the NSW Government fact sheets on safely managing COVID-19.

The College will continue to ensure our layered COVID-smart measures are in place and we thank the community with their ongoing support of these measures as we continue to provide a safe environment for staff, students and parents.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Simon Abernethy
College Principal