

18 January 2022

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Premier, the Hon Steven Marshall, and the Chief Public Health Officer, Professor Nicola Spurrier, have announced a range of changes to the start of the 2022 school year to help minimise the peak of COVID-19 cases in South Australia and resultant strain on the SA Health system.

Consequently, there will be a staged return to Investigator College over the first two weeks of term.

Face-to-face learning has been prioritised for our youngest learners and for specific year levels that are transitioning. Remote learning will be provided for all other year levels and more details regarding this will be sent soon.

Remote learning will be provided for Years 2 to 6 students and Years 9 to 11 students, starting on Wednesday 2 February. In keeping with guidelines provided by the Association of Independent Schools, remote learning will not be offered to year levels where face-to-face learning is provided.

If you are required to attend your workplace and do not have any other appropriate supervision for your children, they may come to school. We will supervise them as they complete their remote learning program.

A Preparation Day (Tuesday 1 February) will be used by our staff to prepare for remote learning and the change to the start of Term 1. If you are required to work on this day and do not have appropriate supervision for your child, you may choose to send them to school to be supervised. No formal learning programs will be provided.

Minimising the spread of COVID-19

Based on SA Health advice, the following measures will be put in place to minimise the spread of COVID-19:

- **Please keep your child home if unwell, *even mildly***
- Masks are required for all adults when indoors (except if it is hindering our staff's ability to communicate effectively while teaching)
- Masks are required for students in Years 7 to 12 when indoors and strongly encouraged for children in Years 3 to 6 when indoors
- Natural ventilation will be maximised by leaving doors/windows open, continued use of air conditioning (set to fresh air intake where available) and fans where possible
- Outdoor learning will be in place where appropriate
- Physical distancing requirements will be maintained where possible
- Student intermingling will be minimised indoors, for example across class groups
- Non-essential visitors will be limited on site. We will contact families of students who are starting at Investigator College to ensure they are able to be part of their child's transition (in a COVID-safe way)

- There will be a temporary postponement of the following activities (until at least Week 4 of Term 1):
 - camps, excursions and incursions
 - interschool sport trials and competitions
 - large gatherings such as assemblies, events and concerts
 - choirs
 - after school clubs
- Buses will run as normal – mask rules apply as per above

This is a challenging time for students, families and staff and it is important that we adhere to these restrictions. Further information regarding face-to-face and online learning will be provided closer to the start of term as it is likely that there will be additional guidelines provided to schools over the next couple of weeks.

In summary, dates for the start of Term 1:

- **Monday 31 January** – Staff Development day.
- **Tuesday 1 February** – Preparation day (Investigator's original starting date for students). The ELC is open on this day.
- **Wednesday 2 February** – Lessons resume (a day after original date). Face-to-face learning for Little Investigators, Reception, Year 1, Year 7, Year 8 and Year 12 students (and Year 11 students studying Year 12 subjects except Research Project). Remote learning for Years 2 to 6 students and Years 9 to 11 students.
- **Monday 14 February** – planned return of face-to-face learning for all year levels.

We kindly ask that all parents/caregivers who require their child/ren to be supervised over the first two weeks of the school year, please email learn@investigator.sa.edu.au prior to Friday 21 January 2022.

We look forward to seeing your child/ren face-to-face or online to start the 2022 school year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr John Robinson
Principal