

9th July 2021



Dear Skillset Senior College Community,

We hope this letter finds you and your families well. We are fortunate to be in the Central West at this time. Our hearts go out to the members of the community that have been effected by the recent developments in the Covid situation. It has been a busy couple of days as we prepare to commence Term 3 ensuring that we can meet the recently published Level Two Guidelines for Schools keeping our community safe and healthy.

In an environment where things are changing hour by hour, it is easy for inaccurate or superseded information to circulate. Please do not hesitate to contact us directly if you have any queries or concerns. Our staff are in touch with the relevant local and state authorities and receive advice multiple times each day.

In order to ensure the health and wellbeing of our community, staff and students should not attend the College if unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms of COVID-19. Anyone, student or staff member with any COVID-19 symptoms, or refusing to comply with current protocols, will be sent home and not permitted to return to school unless:

- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available
- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free.

In circumstances where students or staff have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from your GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Skillset Senior College will continue the protocols we adopted over the last year. These include the use of hand sanitiser, student and visitor check ins on arrival, temperature checks, health questionnaires including travel enquiries and deep cleaning of all surfaces.

The scaled guidelines for schools mean that at Level Two we will make changes to our operations from Monday 12 July.

These changes include: **Masks and Face Coverings while at school**, masks or face coverings are recommended in all indoor settings for all secondary school students and staff. Masks are mandatory on public transport. This applies to students aged 13 years and over, and staff when travelling to and from school and during school excursions by public transport or by chartered or private transport services.

Non-essential visitors are not permitted to enter the College, unfortunately this includes parents and carers at this point in time. We ask that families observe physical distancing requirements when

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SCHOOL... but not as you know it.

dropping off and collecting students including staying in the car if safe to do so. Any visitor who enters the College by appointment (on a case by case basis) must follow mask-wearing requirements and sign-in using the Service NSW QR code.

School Programs and Events

The following activities will continue under the Level Two Guidelines:

- Work experience.
- Emergency drills.
- School grounds staff will conduct business as usual, however, tradespeople and contractors can only conduct critical or urgent works on site by arrangement.
- Trade schools, VET and TAFE courses.

The following activities will continue with COVID-Safe practices in place under the Level Two Guidelines:

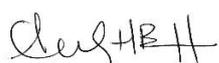
- Assemblies can be held with COVID-Safe practices in place. No visitors permitted.
- Singing, chanting, group repetition and choirs are permitted if conducted outside in a well-ventilated area.
- Principal-endorsed activities for students.
- Excursions should be limited to outdoor locations within the Local Government Area of the school where the school can demonstrate COVID-Safe practices
- Inter-school, inter-regional and intrastate activities and events, such as gala days and sporting carnivals can continue with COVID-Safe practices in place.
- Schools must make alternative arrangements for performances, productions, concerts, speech nights, award presentations, graduations, formals and school dances that support the broader guidance.
- Canteens where appropriate hygiene measures are in place.

Activities that are not permitted or on hold during school hours or within school grounds:

- Camps and out of area field trips.
- Overnight stays.
- Student visits to aged care facilities.
- Community events within school hours.

We send our best wishes to all member of the community and look forward to the students returning for another great term.

Kindest regards,



Head of College

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