



## **St Leo's College Return to College Covid-safe Plan Omicron Variant**

**1 February 2022**

### **1.0 Background**

St Leo's College has been managing Covid-19 risks since early February 2020 when it implemented in-room quarantine periods for residents who relocated to Brisbane from overseas for the purposes of continuing university study.

With the forecast peak of Omicron in Queensland coinciding with the return of residents for the commencement of the 2022 academic year, the following refinements and amendments to the College Plan will commence from Monday 7 February, 2022.

To give better effect to this Plan and to minimize disruption in the event of a mass lockdown, this Plan divides the College into twelve Block households.

### **2.0 Quarantining the Unwell & Reporting to Queensland Health**

Any community member who is confirmed Covid-positive or who reports Covid-like symptoms is to quarantine for seven days, either in St Leo's dedicated quarantine rooms or off-site, until either a confirmed negative RAT or PCR test.

Positive cases are obliged to report to Queensland Health

P - 07 3624 1111

E - [EOC\\_MNPublicHealth@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:EOC_MNPublicHealth@health.qld.gov.au)

Where a resident is quarantined off-site at an approved QH facility, Queensland Health absorbs both transportation costs and accommodation costs for the period of quarantine.

Residents who reside within a two-hour radius of St Leo's are strongly encouraged to return home for the duration of their seven-day quarantine period.

### **2.1 Attendance at Annerley Respiratory Clinic (PACE Building)**

Any community member who has symptoms, but is unable to secure a RAT test must attend the Annerley Respiratory Clinic, Level 3 PACE Building, 20 Cornwall St, Annerley 4103, St Leo's nearest Queensland government respiratory clinic. Note that this clinic requires an appointment but not a GP referral.

Residents who have symptoms must quarantine before they attend their test appointment, and on their return until they receive a negative result.

P – (07) 3346 1170

W - <https://www.qml.com.au/collection-centres/?t=43>

## 2.2 Close Contacts

A close contact is anyone who spends four or more hours with a person known to be or assumed to be Covid-positive. Close contacts must also quarantine, as set out above, but must get RAT tested on day 5 and day 6. They may leave quarantine on day 8, provided they have a confirmed negative RAT or PCR test and have no symptoms.

## 2.3 College Environmental

### Physical Distancing

1. the ongoing requirement of physical distancing (1.5m space) amongst staff and residents at all times
2. the treating of each Block as a household
3. the assigning of particular bathrooms and toilets to particular residents within each Block household
4. the deployment of well-ventilated public common spaces or outdoor public common spaces for resident and conferencing events
5. the requirement that residents bring their own chairs to events at College to minimize movement and maximize sanitation
6. the capacity to have contingencies in place for staff to work from home
7. the ongoing reminders and signage to avoid physical contact, including shaking hands, hugging, etc

### Avoidance of Indoor Gatherings & Reducing Length of Time of Gatherings

1. the scheduling of meal service times to reduce crowding at the commencement of meal services
2. the requirement that gatherings at St Leo's only occur in well ventilated public spaces
3. the requirement that no gathering at St Leo's exceeds three hours, whether indoors or outdoors

### Sanitation Measures & Public Safety

1. the wearing of masks in any indoor space at College that is not a residential Block
2. the avoidance of in-person contact with anyone at College for more than three hours
3. the placement of hand sanitation products in public spaces, including in Blocks
4. the requirement that residents use hand sanitizer before commencing dining and using toilet and bathroom facilities
5. the requirement that any resident/staff who feel(s) unwell advise the Head of College or Deputy Head of College or member of the College Administration
6. the quarantining for seven days in A1, A5, B1, B5 or L9 or an off-site facility of any resident who returns a positive RAT or PCR or who, in the absence of a positive RAT or PCR, reports Covid-like symptoms
7. the delivery of meals to any resident who is quarantined
8. the provision of periods of exercise to any resident who is quarantined
9. the provision of the 2022 flu immunization at no cost to community members
10. where a member of the St Leo's community becomes infected with Covid-19, St Leo's will fully cooperate with government health agencies and, whilst protecting the privacy of the individual, inform those other community members who have had contact with the infected community member, and assist them to comply with St Leo's Covid-safe Plan and requirements of health agencies
11. the requirement that every resident returns to College with a "Covid kit" comprising face masks, RAT tests, Panadol and hand sanitizer.

### **3.0 Operational Assumptions**

#### The Risk is Never Zero

All parties to this Plan acknowledge that prior to complete eradication, there is an ever-present risk of infection in all communities. This Plan mitigates known risks while facilitating a return to 'normal' business practices and normal College routine as quickly and safely as practicable.

#### Government Health Advice Leads this Plan

Each of the practices in this Plan is subservient to government policy and guidelines. It follows St Leo's is obliged to ensure its workplace practices and its Return to College parameters comply with all government health advice. The College itself is responsible for requiring these compliances, assistance in compliance with which, are a condition of residence and work at St Leo's. St Leo's will respond whenever Queensland Health Guidelines are amended.

#### Timing of Return to Normal

Whilst St Leo's aspires to return to normal as early as is practicable, St Leo's will only ease Covid-related restrictions when government agencies announce that easing may occur.

#### Education for Staff and Residents is Critical

St Leo's will ensure staff and resident training to deliver competence and compliance with new hygiene and safety practices. St Leo's acknowledges its role in communicating, promoting and maintaining safe practice as well as implementing training for residents and staff.

#### St Leo's is Responsible for Monitoring and Reporting

At all times, St Leo's retains the lawful authority to monitor and report upon compliances as set out in this Plan.

### **4.0 Vaccine Status Certainty & Adherence to QR sign-ins**

#### Pre-screening and Vaccination-status Certainty

1. All attendees at the College must show proof of at least double vaccination status prior to entering College buildings, or evidence of certified vaccine exemption status
2. Residents may not host guests at St Leo's who have yet to demonstrate their double vaccination status to the College
3. To support health authorities in contact tracing as required, St Leo's will maintain effective records, survey/questionnaire responses, sign-in/out books and other staff/resident information that may be vital in the community response to Covid-19
4. This information will be stored in accordance with St Leo's Privacy Policy
5. Through a system of written communications, St Leo's will ensure staff, residents, guests and contractors are aware that they must not attend College if they have any symptoms potentially consistent with Covid-19
6. Prior to Friday, 4 February, staff will all receive a WH&S education update including information with respect to sanitation practices, social distancing rules and sanitation procedures. As residents return to College or check-in, they will receive the same educational information.

### **4.1 Cleaning and Hygiene Practices**

#### Sanitation

1. St Leo's will promote frequent and effective hand washing by all staff/residents and guests
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2. St Leo's will provide ready access to hand hygiene products, deploying alcohol-based hand rubs and/or a sink with soap and water with particular attention to:
  - a. entry and exit points to College buildings
  - b. toilets and bathrooms
  - c. dining areas
3. St Leo's will display signage explaining correct hand hygiene and sneezing/coughing practices
4. St Leo's will prioritise high traffic areas and common surface areas for more frequent cleaning
5. Prior to Residents returns to College, St Leo's will arrange for a deep clean of the common spaces in Blocks

### **5.0 College Operating Procedure, Areas, Households, Units, Rooms**

The following sets out the operating procedures that inform the management of St Leo's when its administration is subject to statutory directives pursuant to the risks of disasters including floods, pathogens and civil unrest.

#### **5.1 St Leo's Dining Arrangements**

1. St Leo's 209 residents eat three meals per day seven days per week during the academic year dining in a buffet-style common dining room, not unlike a mess hall or cruise ship restaurant. Till further notice College dining arrangements will be staggered as follows:

Third Year lunch from 12:00pm  
Third Year dinner from 5:15pm

Second Year lunch from 12:15pm  
Second year dinner from 5:30pm

First Year lunch from 12:30pm  
First Year dinner from 5:45pm.

#### **5.2 St Leo's Bedroom & Bathroom Configurations**

1. St Leo's 209 residents are divided amongst 12 two and three storey Blocks – A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, M and P.
2. A – K Blocks house between 12 – 16 residents each, 8 residents per floor. L and M house 24 and 38 residents respectively across two and three storeys, respectively.
3. 152 of St Leo's 209 residents reside in Blocks of eight residents. These residents use two common toilets and two common showers per Block.
4. 32 of St Leo's 209 residents share a bathroom with one other resident.
5. 25 of St Leo's 209 residents have their own en suited bathrooms.

#### **5.3 Lockdown/Stay-at Home Orders**

Where St Leo's is subject to a statutory lockdown directive, to facilitate the minimization of movement within St Leo's itself, the College becomes twenty units, eleven households and six areas.

## **5.4 Areas**

### Area 1 (32 residents)

A, B

### Area 2 (48 residents)

C, D, E

### Area 3 (48 residents)

F, G, H

### Area 4 (12 residents)

K

### Area 5 (31 residents)

L, P

### Area 6 (38 residents)

M

Subject to the scale of the risk, to monitor movement, residents are required to wear wristbands. Currently armbands are not required.

## **5.5 Households**

A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F  
G  
H  
K  
L  
M  
P

## **5.6 Units**

Upper A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, M

Lower A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, L, M

Top Storey M

As the stringencies of the lockdown intensify, residents receive instructions to refrain from departing their area, their household or their unit. Adjustments are made to meal times and usages of public rooms to complement the stringency of the directives.

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## **5.7 Communications**

The College communicates to residents via outdoor face-to-face meetings, electronic media and, where confronted by urgent, active and present risks, via emergency public announcement system.

**End of  
St Leo's College  
Return to College  
Covid-safe Plan  
Omicron Variant**