

From: Paul Matthews

Sent: Tuesday, 05 April 2022 17:08

Subject: Amended Brescia House School Comms 6 of 2022 for COVID-19 Protocol

Dear Parents, Staff and Pupils,

Last evening's address by President Ramaphosa has cancelled the State of Disaster formed because of COVID-19. There is a thirty-day transitional period whilst the Health Act is reviewed and there may be amendment thereto to continue some of the safety provisions. In the interim, and based on last evening's announcement, we are adapting our COVID-19 protocols at the school per information hereunder.

I remind that the school's approach is based on the duty of care and good stewardship and to form our own opinions and apply our own safety protocols to best serve our community. We have a further tenet which comes with Brescia House School – we must be ethical and apply the Ursuline values in everything we do.

Based on the above approach, we now issue our **updated COVID-19 protocol information – Comms 6 of 2022**, which will come into effect on **Wednesday 6th April 2022**.

1. Access temperature:

- a. Cancelled.

2. Sanitising and cleaning:

- a. Sanitising stations - continued use is compulsory
- b. Hand sanitising and regular washing remain compulsory.
- c. Housekeeping cleaning regime updated to reflect the greater venue usage, but still maintain sensible application as required.

3. Classroom layout protocol:

- a. Free layout per teaching process.

4. Ventilation and fresh air:

- a. We continue to have all windows and doors open in all venues – to maintain a sensible approach to the COVID-19 infection rate which still exists.
- b. We will continue this practice in winter – which will have an unfortunate effect on venue warmth, so we ask that the pupils and staff dress accordingly.

5. Public indoor large spaces:

- a. We retain our approach - none of our indoor public spaces breach the 1000 capacity rules, we will therefore apply the 50% maximum occupancy rule. This applies to the Halls; Atrium; Hub, Auditorium, Resource Centre, Chapel.

6. Masks:

- a. Masks in all indoor venues remain compulsory.
- b. No masks required outdoors, or on open patios/corridors or at sports facilities.

7. Isolation:

- a. Cancelled.
 - i. However, Brescia House School adheres to an ethical and faith-based standard, that requires each of us to consider our neighbour. For this reason, we ask that if you are COVID-19 positive, or someone in your household is COVID-19 positive, that you consider the community and the prevalence of high-risk people therein, - and consider staying at home (isolation) for at least seven days

- b. We amend the notification process, please notify your respective teacher in Foundation Phase and Intermediate Phase, in High School, please notify your Grade Co-Ordinator. Staff to notify their respective line manager.

8. Visitor access:

- a. We are lifting the provision to limit access to the school and revert to standard access.
- b. For clarity on standard access for those of you who are unfamiliar, the following applies:
 - i. **During school hours** the “**by meeting appointment**” rule will remain.
 - ii. For clarity on “school hours” – this is **07H30 to 14H30**.
 - 1. Access to inner perimeter areas will be granted for those parents who need free access before 14H30 as follows:
 - a. Please note that this access is only to the Parent-link (braai area adjacent pool) and access to the tuckshop.
 - b. This access is for FP and IP parents whose daughters finish at various earlier closing times daily.
 - c. The access referred to here, is limited to the period **after** respective grades in FP and IP finish and not beforehand.
 - 2. Sport spectator access is freely available to parents for **interschool** events but not practices – unless by invitation of the sports department.
 - 3. Sport spectator access for **intra-school** events during school day - by invitation only.

We have all faced a long and difficult at times road for the past 750 days. Many of us have lost loved ones and friends and acquaintances. We remember all these people and our prayers and thoughts go out to those families who have been severely affected by the pandemic. We will never forget.

For those who have passed away, we know God is with them and we ask for his blessing for the living and the dead.

Thank you to all the support staff, teachers and admin staff who went above and beyond, thank you to the pupils and parents who found strength in difficult times - each one of you, for your dedication, care, and commitment. Through your compassion, you have shown all of us the meaning of grace, love, and care for our community.

We start a new chapter now in facing this pandemic, we give thanks to God for his mercy, and we pray for all to slowly heal from the devastation that many of us have faced.

Kind regards,

Paul Matthews
Operations Manager & COVID-19 Manager