

Dear parents and carers

Thank you for your work in ensuring schools remained safe during Term 1.

The Victorian Government has announced it is extending the RAT screening program for the first 4 weeks of Term 2. Thank you to all students and families who have played their role in regularly testing – we know that hasn't been easy.

Your work has seen COVID-19 cases being picked up at the earliest opportunity, meaning less cases in our school and more time in the classroom for our students.

The testing recommendations will remain the same next Term for students and staff with:

- Mainstream schools – recommended to test at home twice a week
- Specialist schools – recommended to test 5 days a week at home due to the higher risk of severe illness for medically vulnerable children

We will send home a pack of Rapid Antigen Tests for use in the first 2 weeks of Term 2 with your child this week.

Students attending the School Holiday Vacation Program are still expected to test twice weekly. Extra Rapid Antigen Tests will be available from the Vacation Care co-ordinator if you need extras.

As we approach winter and flu season, the vaccination of children aged 5 to 11 and booster shots for students 16+ remains the best way to ensure protection for students and staff. The Easter break is a good opportunity to get your child vaccinated ahead of this, with many options across GPs, pharmacies and the state run vaccination clinics.

If you have any concerns or worries about getting your child vaccinated, please get in contact with your GP or another health professional who can answer your concerns.

Thank you again for all your support over Term 1, we couldn't have done it without you.