



**ST HILDA'S SCHOOL  
GOLD COAST**

**From the Principal**

10 January 2022

**PREMIER'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHANGES TO THE RETURN TO SCHOOL DATE FOR  
PRIMARY AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Dear St Hilda's families,

I hope this communication finds you and your family safe and well.

Like many of you I was pleased to hear the Queensland Premier's press conference yesterday and to have some clarification from the government on 2022 Return to School plans.

Since my December letter, the Directives pertaining to COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Workers in a high-risk setting has been implemented and in future communications we will detail what the Directive requires for Volunteers, and what is required of parents and visitors to the school campus.

Yesterday, the Premier's announcement indicated that the government has moved the start of the school from 24 January to Monday 7 February.

This date applies to students in Prep to Year 10. Students in Years 11 and 12, will resume their studies online, on Monday 31 January.

For our youngest cohort, our Pre-prep students, their commencement date, onsite, will not change. They commence in the week beginning 25 January. This is due to Pre-Prep's classification as 'long day care'.

These staggered starts are measures the Queensland government has put in place as a pre-emptive response to modelling projections for the last week of January and first week of February when the Omicron peak is anticipated.

Our Boarding House will open on Sunday 6 February for returning Boarders.

In terms of the length of the School Year, also referred to in yesterday's media release, the Premier announced this would be extended for a further week at the end of the year.

We are seeking to maintain our current term timelines. The seven teaching days 'lost' for the majority of the School due to the later commencement date will be sourced from staff days at the beginning and end of terms. This is a model we have successfully employed in the past.

In the course of the next week further communications will be sent by our subschools, from Mrs Cleverly, Mrs Shuttlewood, Mrs Devlin and Ms Upasiri, and Mrs Rigby. Their communications will contain information specific to your daughter's year levels. Further to this you will receive updates on our provision of supervision at the School, during the two weeks of non-contact time for children of essential workers.

We continue to liaise with our brother school TSS in order to assist families with their organisation during these rapidly changing times.

I would ask our families to be mindful that just like any other workplace, the school will experience, the inevitable unavailability of some staff due to isolation or health requirements. Your patience and understanding that our priority remains the safety and wellbeing of our community is appreciated.

Please continue to familiarise yourself with COVID requirements for social distancing, mask wearing and not attending the school when unwell. As a School I know that we will all be seeking to support and care for each other.

I look forward to working together to ensure your daughters are well-prepared for this next stage of their education journey.

Kindest regards



**Wendy Lauman**

Med, BEd, GCertTh, AACM (Td), AIMM, MACEL  
Principal