



Dear Parents and carers,

Thank you for all your support during these past few weeks of remote and flexible learning.

Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has advised that schools can begin a phased return to on-site schooling.

In this **first stage** all students in specialist schools will return to school from Tuesday 26 May. There is no change to our current arrangements for those students who are eligible to attend.

To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, **Monday 25 May will be a Pupil-free day.**

As from Tuesday May 26th all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children home after May 26th, we may no longer support their learning from home. This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan.

To support the health and wellbeing of all our students and staff, our school will continue an enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent hand washing.

If you child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice. If a child is showing symptoms of a runny nose, fatigue, fever, diarrhoea, sore throat or dry cough parents will be contacted to collect their child immediately. Children should remain at home until they are symptom free.

While the Chief Health Officer has advised that students will not be required to maintain physical distancing at school, there will be a number of important changes to our school operations, consistent with health advice. This will apply until further notice. I will provide more detail about our local school context as soon as possible, but it is important to note that changes will include:

- Adjusted arrangements for parent/carer drop off and pick up times as follows
- **For students in B2, B3, B4, B5 and B6, drop off time will be between 8.45am and 9.00am** and pick up will be between **2.30pm and 2.45pm**
- **For student in C1, C4, C5, D2 and D4, drop off time will be between 9.00am and 9.15am** and pick up will **be between 2.45pm and 3.00pm**
- All students must enter and leave via the gate to the right hand side of Building A
- **Parents and carers who need to drop their child at school after 9.15am must call the school on 51445644 prior to arriving and a staff member will meet you at the gate**
- **Parents and carers must not meet in the school carpark and only escort your child to and from the gate if they require support. A staff member will be available to assist students as required.**
- Social distancing rules apply to all adults and signs have been installed at school as a guide
- Restrictions will apply on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students;
- The way we conduct parent-teacher meetings and interviews

We understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken on the basis of the best health advice available to our state.

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the Department's website, which will continue to be updated:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time. We look forward to welcoming our students back to the classroom.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Nolan