



05/06/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your support during these past few weeks of remote and flexible learning. We know and understand that it has not always been easy but there is some light at the end of the tunnel. Your support and commitment has been highly valued by all school staff.

As students return to school I would ask that all borrowed devices, books and materials be returned to the school. The school has lent a large amount of equipment and it would be very costly to replace, meaning that we would have less funds to spend on other projects.

I would urge you to read the following information very carefully as most of it comes directly from the Victorian Education Department.

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

Return to school

In the first stage, students in Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 will return to school from Tuesday **26th of May**. Those students in Grade 3-6 who have gained and sort permission to attend school will continue to do so. They may only attend on the days that there is **no adult at home to supervise the child regardless of whether or not they have a sibling attending full time**. This may mean that you have a child/children at school and some continuing with remote and flexible learning at home.

From the 26th of May, **remote and flexible instruction will cease for students in Prep, Grade 1 and 2**. There is no capacity for staff to provide both options as both are full time jobs.

To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, Monday 25 May will be a pupil-free day. The school will run the **Out of Hours School Program for those students whose parents are working outside of the home and who have sort and gained permission to attend school**.

In the second stage of our return to on-site schooling, **Grades 3-6 will return to school from Tuesday 9 June. As of Tuesday the 9th of June all remote and flexible learning will cease for these students**.

Once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children home after their year level has returned to on-site schooling, we can 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.



This same approach is being taken by all government schools in Victoria.

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. Student must bring a labelled drink bottle as they are not to drink from bubbler taps.

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 becomes ill at school you will be notified and required to collect them as soon as possible.

While the Victorian 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 drop off and pick up, including staggered school start and finish times
- restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students
- how we will 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,

Wendy Jackson

Principal