



Learning to Excel Together

03.08.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Late yesterday afternoon, the Victorian Government announced that, on the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, regional and rural Victoria will move to Stage 3 restrictions, and metropolitan Melbourne will move to Stage 4 restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

These requirements apply to all schools across the government, Catholic and independent sectors and across all metropolitan Melbourne and rural and regional Victoria.

The **changes to schools'** operations will come into effect from Wednesday 5 August, following a **student free day on Tuesday 4 August**, and are **likely to apply until the end of Term 3**.

As outlined in the Chief Health Officer's advice on Friday, schools remain safe places for staff and students – but these steps are critical measures to reduce the movement of students and families across the state. There are implications for our school and families in our school community.

A summary of what the changes mean for schools is below.

METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE

PREP TO YEAR 10

Prep to Year 10 students will continue with remote and flexible learning.

The criteria for students that can attend on-site has changed as follows:

- children whose parents are permitted workers. The Victorian Government will provide further advice about this over the coming days
- vulnerable children in out of home care, children known to child protection and other agencies and children the school identifies as vulnerable
- children with a disability who also fit one of the above two categories.

TIMELINE

- Monday 3 August will be a 'normal' day of school under current arrangements, with students attending on-site learning asked to take all their necessary learning materials home.
- Tuesday 4 August will be a student-free day across Victoria to enable teachers, especially in rural and regional Victoria, to prepare for flexible and remote learning.
- Wednesday 5 August will be the first day of new arrangements for schools across Victoria
- This is a day ahead of the statewide introduction of the Stage 3 restrictions in rural and regional Victoria, and will provide for a smooth transition and will enable as much continuity of learning as possible.

STAFFING

- Schools will ensure sufficient staff are available for necessary on-site supervision for those families meeting the Government's on-site attendance criteria
- Staff not required for on-site supervision will work from home.

I will provide an update soon about arrangements for remote and flexible learning at our school.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Best regards,

Amanda McLean
Principal