

Information for Return to face to face learning

The three important dates for our school

- Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has advised that schools can begin a phased return to on-site schooling. **In the first stage**, students in **Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2**, senior secondary (Year 11 and 12 VCAL and VCE) students and all students in specialist schools **will return to school from Tuesday May 26th**
- Our three schools have a **Pupil Free Day on June 9th** which was approved by School Council last year and has been confirmed by our Regional Office. **No students should attend our sites on June 9th**. Staff will be collaborating on Student Assessment and Reporting in preparation for our Semester 1 reports to be distributed in the last week of term
- Following the Pupil Free day on June 9th **all students P-6** will be expected to **attend school as normal from June 10th**

The Department have asked schools to make arrangements to minimise the possibility of transmission of COVID in our community. In particular they have suggested that specific attention should be paid to:

- opening as many entry and exit points to the school as is safe, and allocating staff to ensure students are safely supervised
- staggering start and finish times
- asking parents to avoid or minimise time in or around the school grounds.

In response to this at the local level, ***we will put the following in place from May 26th until June 5th.***

When our Grade 3-6 students return we will make some adjustments to these plans and they will be communicated through Skoolbag, newsletter and the website.

At drop off time

- We request that parents drop off their children at either the Vincent St school gates or the Central Springs Rd gate or the bottom car park. There will be extra staff on duty in the morning from 8.45 to direct students to their classroom where classroom teachers will be available to greet the students.
- Students will go directly to their classroom on arrival.

It may take a bit of time to get used to this new arrangement, but I'm sure we will soon find our rhythm.

At pick up time

- Office is open at usual
- Parents may collect their child from 2.30pm onwards by completing an early pick up form as usual from the office.
- At 3.20pm remaining students will be dismissed. We ask that parents meet their children at the top of the stairs that overlook the P-2 area of the school
- Specific pickup areas for each class will be clearly defined.
- Bus traveller arrangements will remain the same
- Social distancing must be adhered to whilst you are on the school site at all times

Cleaning

We have arranged additional cleaning to be conducted during the day to supplement our usual end of the day program. The emphasis will be on wiping down high touch areas such as rails and doors. We will be doubling the amount of our normal cleaning and whilst sticking to the department guidelines.

Other Health related measures

Playground equipment can be used and students will practise hand hygiene before and after use. Playgrounds will be wiped down as part of the enhanced cleaning program.

Students **must bring their own named water bottle** for use at school.

Students should not drink directly from bubble taps.

IT devices loaned from school

All P-2 students who have borrowed devices from school should return these from May 26th onwards. We hope that these devices will all be ***back by May 29th***.

All 3-6 students who have borrowed devices from school should return these from June 10th onwards. We hope that these devices will all be ***back by June 12th***

Buses

The Student Transport Program (the buses) will continue operation with enhanced cleaning and physical distancing from adults (driver and other attendants) where practical. Usual timetables will apply.

Parent Appointments

We will still be welcoming parents to have conversations with their child's teacher. However during the time of the restrictions it will be necessary for parents to make requests for appointments through the office. This can be either by email daylesford.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or our phone 53482480.

Below I have added some local detail in blue to the DET guidelines.

Activities

Additional staff including parent volunteers, should be discouraged from attending school at this time.

This will mean that programs such as Kitchen Garden will need to be modified. We love Kitchen Garden and we love our treasures. Sandra is working out some ideas with the 3/4 team to enable the Garden Part to go ahead. Music Tuition will be suspended until the situation changes. Parents volunteering for classroom support will be suspended until the restrictions are lifted. The Canteen will not run until further notice.

School assemblies, excursions, camps and other non-essential large gatherings must be postponed or adapted considering use of technology. **We will commence assemblies via the comms system at School when the students return. If you are in the vicinity of the school you will most likely hear it on a Tuesday morning.**

Hygiene

Everyone can protect themselves and prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) by continuing effective hand hygiene. Enhanced hygiene measures should continue during the return to on-site teaching and learning.

All staff and students should undertake regular hand hygiene. **This means that every time students or staff enter or leave a room they will practice hand hygiene through washing their hands with sanitizer. This includes the gym, library and at the start and end of the day.**

We should reduce mixing between different cohorts (either classes or year levels) is recommended as a precautionary measure to minimise risk of spread of transmission and aid containment in the rare event of a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) on site. **This means that Buddies and families will be suspended until restrictions are lifted.**

In conclusion I would like to thank everyone in anticipation for their support. Our community has been magnificent in the way we have banded together to get the best out of a very challenging situation. Some of the measures we are taking will hurt and for the next few weeks the challenge will continue.

However I'm very comfortable and confident about the following points-

We are prepared

We have put in effort

We will be vigilant

We are a team and we are together

All the best

Brett Millott

Principal