

19.5.2020

## CCPS COVID-19 Return to School Guidelines

### School health and safety measures

- The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) has advised that a 'venue density rule' of no more than one person per four square metres is not appropriate or practical in classrooms or corridors, nor maintaining 1.5 metres between students during classroom activities. Therefore, the previously established ratio of 10 students per class is no longer required in schools.
- To support all school staff to prepare for the transition **Monday 25 May 2020 will be a pupil-free day**. Schools will use this day to ensure the health advice will be followed in their school, re-establish school routines, establish an approach to assessing student learning progress during the period of remote and flexible learning, and identify students in need of immediate health and wellbeing support.
- We value the importance of supporting students to return to normal routine, acknowledging the situation, providing developmentally suitable information about what is occurring, as well as providing a safe space for students to raise their concerns and feelings.

All students in the year levels returning to on-site schooling are expected to attend school. Schools are not expected to provide remote learning where parents elect to keep these students at home, except where this is based on medical advice. Please contact your Sub-school Assistant Principal if this is the case.

Foundation – Grade 2: Anne McDonald

Grade 3 to Grade 6: Mick Sweeney

Wellbeing: Kerry Bates

### Other health and safety measures

- Playground equipment can be used. However, students will practise hand hygiene before and after use. Playgrounds will be wiped down after recess and lunchtime with hospital grade disinfectant as part of the enhanced cleaning program.
- If shared equipment is used, strict hand hygiene will be followed before and after use.
- Students will need to bring their own water bottle for use at school as students will not be able to drink directly from drinking fountains.
- The DET *Students Using Mobile Phones Policy* remains in place. Students will be asked to clean their phones with a disinfectant wipe when handing in to the office each morning. Phones can be turned on with the COVID SAFE app activated immediately before and after school. Schools are managed environments which include records of student, staff and visitor attendance, which can support contact tracing.

### Mental health and wellbeing

If you have particular concerns about your child's mental health and wellbeing please notify Assistant Principals as soon as possible to ensure we can access any available services and supports.

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### Cleaning

Extended and increased cleaning arrangements have been introduced and will continue. This involves progressive cleaning throughout the day to ensure that risks of transmission are reduced for high touch surfaces.

### Attendance on-site

One of the most important actions school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), is to ensure that any unwell staff, children and young people remain at home.

While the risk of transmission of the virus is very low, staff or students most at risk of severe illness should individually assess appropriateness for on-site attendance at this time with support from their medical practitioner.

As the main risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the school environment is between adults, visitors to school grounds will be limited to those delivering or supporting essential school services and operations. If parents need to contact the school for any reason, please phone the school office.

### **All unwell staff and students must stay home.**

Parents/carers of students with complex medical needs (including those with compromised immune systems), should seek advice from the student's medical practitioner to support decision-making about whether on-site education is suitable, noting that this advice may change depending on the status of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in Victoria. This is in line with the [DET Health Care Needs](#) policy. The school will support any family with extra needs in this area.

School assemblies, excursions, camps and other non-essential large gatherings are postponed until further notice.

## Hygiene

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

- All staff and students will undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet. This will be directed or supervised by staff where required.
- Where soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitiser will be provided in every occupied room.
- Students will not be permitted to drink directly from drinking fountains at this time. Instead they should bring their own water bottle for use (and refilling) at school.

## School arrival and departure

As the main risk of introducing coronavirus (COVID-19) to the school environment is from adults, close proximity between adult members of the school community should be avoided, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up.

- Staff and parents are required to observe physical distancing measures by not congregating in areas inside or around the school.
- Arrangements to practice physical distancing and minimise interaction of students and adults within the school and at school entry points will include:
  - placing dots at the school gate to encourage spacing between adults
  - Parents are not permitted to be on site and are asked to contact the school by phone or email as required
  - Essential meetings will be through video conferencing
  - Any interactions to observe social distancing guidelines and greetings are to be non-contact
  - Possible staggered drop off and pick-up times to reduce the number of adults congregating at the school gate or outside classrooms if required