



August 3rd, 2020

Dear parents, carers, students and staff

Yesterday, 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 for families in our school community.

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

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, but will provide for a smooth transition and will enable as much continuity of learning as possible.

RURAL AND REGIONAL VICTORIA

PREP TO YEAR 10

- Prep to Year 10 students will move to remote and flexible learning.
- On-site supervision in rural and regional Victoria will be available but the criteria for students to attend has changed. The Victorian Government will provide further advice about this over the coming days.

SENIOR SECONDARY YEAR 11 AND 12 (VCE AND VCAL)

- All Year 11 and 12 provision for both VCE and VCAL will move to remote and flexible learning.
- The GAT will be rescheduled from Wednesday 9 September to Wednesday 7 October.
- The schedule for the VCE examinations and release of results will remain as previously advised.
- Further information about consideration of disadvantage and coronavirus (COVID-19) will be provided shortly.

SPECIALIST SCHOOLS

- Any child enrolled in a specialist school in rural and regional Victoria will be able to continue to attend.
- Any parent of a child enrolled in a specialist school in rural and regional Victoria who wishes to keep their child at home can do so, and where possible, the school can provide learning materials and activities for the child and their parent to complete at home.

STAFFING

- Schools will ensure sufficient staff are available for necessary on site supervision.
- Staff not required for on-site supervision will work from home.

For those students attending school today (Monday 3rd August) we will be sending home their pencil cases, some books and readers for you to start your child's remote learning experience on Wednesday 5th August.

I will provide an update soon about arrangements for remote and flexible learning at our school. Please monitor the Sentral Parent portal for further updates and messages.

Please note: YMCA will be offering a pupil free day service tomorrow (Tuesday 4th August) for those working families in need of childcare arrangements. For bookings please contact 0400 160 933

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Kim Saddler

Principal

Kangaroo Flat primary School