

5th May 2020

TERANG
COLLEGE



Together we grow

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your support during these past few weeks of remote and flexible learning.

Following advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has advised schools can begin a staged return to on-site schooling to assist with the transition to on-site schooling. Terang College's arrangements are:

- To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, **Monday 25 May will be a pupil-free day.**
- 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 26 May.
 - Year 10 students undertaking VCE studies, including VCE VET studies, should also attend school for those classes where practicable. If this is not possible for your child/children, our teachers will make sure the work provided to students attending at school is also provided to your child/children.
- In the **second stage**
 - all other year levels will return to school from Tuesday 9 June.

For those students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children, the existing model of on-site schooling will remain in place during the two-week period from Tuesday 26 May to Tuesday 9 June. The current process we are using to enable parents and carers to indicate the days or part-days for which on-site schooling is required will continue for this two week period. All other students in these grades and year levels will continue learning from home until Tuesday 9 June.

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.

If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice.

While the Victorian Chief Health Officer has advised 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 changes will include:

- both campuses will be open and eligible students will attend their usual campus pre remote learning
- students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children will be supervised and expected to continue with remote learning from on-site schooling from 26th May to 9th June.
- students are strongly encouraged to provide their own individual named drink bottle because the use of bubble taps will be restricted
- there will adjusted arrangements for drop off and pick up
- access restrictions to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students will be in place
- the way we conduct parent-teacher meetings and interviews

We understand some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you 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,

GREG BUTTON, PRINCIPAL

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