



-  Coolock (03) 5449 3466
-  St Mary's (03) 5445 9100
-  www.cmc.vic.edu.au
-  principal@cmc.vic.edu.au

13 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for all your support during these past few weeks of remote and flexible learning. Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government and the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) have advised that schools can begin a phased return to onsite schooling. Sandhurst Catholic schools will adhere to this advice.

In the **first stage**, all students at St. Mary's will be returning to their normal program on Tuesday 26 May. At Coolock the ELAP students will return on Tuesday 26 May. Coolock Essential Services students will also continue to attend.

To support staff to prepare for this transition, Monday 25 May will be a student-free day for the whole College.

In the **second stage** of our return all Coolock students will return on 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 onsite 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 your daughter or son's Year Level Learning Leader.

This same approach is being taken by all Catholic and government schools in Victoria.

To support the health and wellbeing of all students and staff, our school will continue an enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent handwashing.

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

While the Chief Health Officer has advised that 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 to all schools that will be made available in coming days. These will apply until further notice. I will provide more details about our local school context as soon as possible, but it is important to note that changes will include:

- restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students;
- there will be no parent-teacher meetings and interviews;

.../2

COOLOCK

Years 7-9
McIvor Highway, Junortoun 3551

ST MARY'S

Years 10-12
Barkly Street, Bendigo 3550

A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd
ABN 69 154 531 870

- A thorough cleaning of all preparation and learning facilities is essential;
- Staff need to social distance (1.5 metre rule / 4 square metres of space);
- Hygiene information to be clearly visible throughout school;
- Hand sanitiser in every classroom;
- No assemblies, camps or excursions;
- Students are not to use drinking fountains / bubblers. They should bring their own water bottles to use.

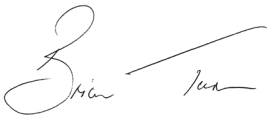
Buses will continue to run to their normal timetable.

We understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken based on the best health advice available to our state.

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the CECV website, which will continue to be updated: www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents. In the near future further advice will be presented to the College by CECV outlining contingencies that will be in place to support the students return.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time. We look forward to welcoming students back to the classroom.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Turner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr Brian Turner

Principal