

## *Return to School Update Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May*

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

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

As communicated to you on Tuesday, 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.

As announced by the Premier, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May has been designated as a pupil free day to enable all staff to prepare for the resumption of classes at school.

Foundation, Grades One and Two, will be able to return to school on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Children in Grades 3 to 6 will continue learning from home until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

From 26<sup>th</sup> May to 5<sup>th</sup> June, we will continue to be open to students in Grades 3-6 of essential workers and for children for whom there is no adult at home. From Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June, Grades 3 to 6 will join their schoolmates at school.

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

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 make contact with the school so we can discuss appropriate support that can be provided.**

Please note, that in order for our Foundation, Grade One and Grade Two teachers to prepare and plan for their children's return on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May they won't be available to respond to the Home Learning tasks on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May for Juniors and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May for Foundation. Children may still complete their tasks but teachers will be unavailable to respond.

Similarly, in order for our Middle and Senior Unit staff to be able to prepare and plan for Grades 3 to 6 children's return on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June, they won't be available to respond to Home Learning tasks on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June for Middles and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June for Seniors. Children may still complete their tasks but teachers will be unavailable to respond.

### *Transitioning back to School*

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 which will be finalised and communicated to families next week.

I will provide full details about the particular arrangements at Corpus Christi to you next week, in readiness for children's return to school on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May.

It is important to note however that changes will include, but won't be limited to:

- adjusted arrangements for drop-off and pick-up
- restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than school staff and students
- increased signage to remind staff, students and families of the need for changed behaviours
- enhanced hygiene practices and cleaning
- completion of a declaration form for all visitors who need to be onsite for a specific purpose

Most importantly, to support the health and wellbeing of all students and staff, our school will continue a rigorous and enhanced cleaning routine (indoors and outdoors) and will encourage frequent handwashing and sanitising.

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

**When we provide specific details of procedures and practices that we will put into place at Corpus Christi, I ask that you support in preparing your child for the changes that will be in place. This can be done by speaking with your child and letting them know that things will look and be different in many respects, but that these changes will be necessary to have in place, in order to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus and to help everyone to be healthy and safe. We thank you for this support as we believe this will really help reassure your child during this transition process.**

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 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 CECV website, which will continue to be updated: [www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents](http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents).

*Thank you for your continued support during this time. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school. We are really missing them!*

*Stay safe and stay well!*

*With kind regards,*

*Linda*