



ST JAMES
THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning with strength and in gentleness

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3 August 2020

Dear families,

RE: Stage 4 Restrictions

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 all schools in 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.

Please note, the student free day tomorrow, Tuesday 4 August, means that there will be **no remote or flexible learning**.

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.

METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE

PREP TO YEAR 10

- Prep to Year 10 students will continue with remote and flexible learning.
- The criteria for students that can attend on-site has changed as follows:
 - children whose parents are **permitted workers**. The Victorian Government will provide further advice about this over the coming days
 - vulnerable children in out of home care, children known to child protection and other agencies and children the school identifies as vulnerable
 - children with a disability who also fit one of the above two categories.

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 COVID-19 will be provided shortly.

SPECIALIST SCHOOLS

- On-site provision in specialist schools will only be available to children whose parents are permitted workers, and vulnerable children.

TIMELINE

- Today, Monday 3 August, will be a 'normal' day of school under current arrangements
- 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. Students will not have access to remote or flexible 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.

STAFFING

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

As updates become available, they will also be posted online:

- Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/sjhcncatholic
- Read up on all updates on our website at sjhcncatholic.edu.au/remotelearning

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Stay safe and keep well,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Abbott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mary Abbott
Principal