

Thursday 9 September 2021



## **Arrangements for Year 12 classes for the rest of term**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday, the Victorian Government announced a partial return to school for regional Victorian students undertaking VCE Unit 3 & 4 subjects, Year 11 students completing a Unit 3 & 4 subject and students completing final year VCAL/VET subjects. These classes will recommence onsite tomorrow, **Friday 10 September 2021**. The limited return of onsite learning in regional Victoria is subject to a range of restrictions and guidelines determined by the Victorian Chief Health Officer.

Clearly, the arrangements to support the partial return of students and staff tomorrow are proving difficult for the Victorian Government and health authorities as we are still waiting for clear direction on a range of operational questions. Therefore, I have published what we know and have decided for tomorrow and will follow up with any clarifications as they come through.

The following points summarise the arrangements for Unit 3 & 4 classes starting tomorrow:

- Classes will commence onsite for Unit 3 & 4 VCE students (including Year 11 students completing a Unit 3 & 4 sequence). VCAL and VET classes will also recommence onsite.
- Arrangements for Year 12 students will be as normal as possible with homeroom commencing at 8.50am, classes as per timetables and recess/lunch as normal.
- Study Hall will operate for Year 12 students.
- Buses will run as normal.
- The College Canteen and Atrium will be open for students able to pre-order and purchase food.
- Given the current COVID19 restrictions, students will not be permitted to walk down the street at lunchtime.
- Tomorrow (Friday 10 September), in recognition of the return to onsite learning, the College will provide a special catered lunch for all Year 12 students. This will be available at lunchtime with details provided to students in homeroom tomorrow.
- Students will be required to wear correct winter uniform but are permitted to wear their Year 12 jumpers for the rest of the term.

### **Onsite COVID-Safe Arrangements**

Notwithstanding the limited return to onsite classes, a strict regime of Covid-SAFE protocols will accompany the partial return of students and staff:

- All basic Covid-SAFE behaviours must be observed by students where possible. These include social distancing, hand hygiene, staying home when unwell and having a CV test.
- Masks to be worn wherever social distancing is not possible outside and always worn indoors. They must be worn correctly over the mouth and nose.

- The College will endeavour to ensure that all classrooms are ventilated where practical – we expect further guidelines in this area in coming weeks.
- Masks must also be worn when travelling on a bus to and from school.
- Students are expected to bring their own mask each day although disposable masks will be available if necessary.
- We expect density limits of 1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup> to apply in schools which will have implications for the College's larger indoor spaces and their capacity.

### **Year 11 Students completing VCE Unit 3 & 4 classes**

A number of special arrangements are in place to support the attendance of Year 11 students completing Unit 3 & 4 classes onsite with students able to either travel to school just for their Unit 3-4 class during the day or come to school for the whole day. Students onsite for the whole day will be required to attend the existing onsite supervision class in the Catherine McAuley Library. Students only attending for the Unit 3-4 class will be required to sign in and out through the SPO office in Dwyer.

### **Priority Vaccinations for Students studying Unit 3 & 4 VCE Subjects**

A reminder that there are a number of opportunities across the Macedon Ranges for students studying Unit 3 & 4 VCE subjects to access priority vaccinations until next Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Vaccine hubs are available through:

- Bendigo Health (Braemar College's Woodend Campus)
- Loddon Mallee Health
- Hepburn Shire (through Springs Medical)
- Kyneton Health (from next week)

Details on each of these can be found on the Year 12 Class of 2021 Google classroom.

### **Moving Forward**

We are still to clarify arrangements for students during the upcoming holidays but will communicate these as soon as possible.

As I have said many times, the College is immensely appreciative of the support that parents, carers and families have given students over the last 18 months. Conditions continue to be difficult and uncertain for all VCE/VCAL students but I hope that their experiences will be reflected in a greater capacity for resilience and independent learning.

Yours in Mercy,



**Dr Darren Egberts**  
**Principal**