



LYNDHURST SECONDARY COLLEGE

Dear Parents and Guardians

The resilience of students, parents and staff has been tested over the two terms of remote learning. I am very proud of how our whole school community has worked together make the best of the challenges our community is facing. As I advised in my last communication to you, the College will be re-opening with a staggered start by our students as per the advice by our Premier, Mr Daniel Andrews. We are all very excited to once again welcome our students back to on site learning.

Students in Years 8 to 10 will continue learning from home until Thursday 23rd October and welcome them back to on-site learning on Monday October 26th. We look forward to welcoming our Year 7 and Senior School students, years 11 and 12 back to face to face learning next week from Monday 12th October. A reminder that Friday, October 23rd is a public holiday and there will be no classes on that day.

The purpose of this communication is to provide information for families about arrangements on the school site. It will once again, not be school as normal. We are relying on all members of our community to be patient and adhere to the guidelines and arrangements outlined below.

- On Monday 12th October, Year 7, 11 and 12 students return to face-face learning.
- On Monday 26th October, Year 8, 9, and 10 students return to face-face learning
- Friday 23rd October is a public holiday and there will be no classes either remote or on the school site.
- **If your child is ill or feeling unwell, they must not attend school.** You must keep them at home and away from others and seek medical guidance before returning to school. We ask all parents to communicate with their child/ren how important it is to inform your parent/s or guardian or teacher, if you are feeling unwell.
- Physical distancing will be adhered to for all adults on site at all times
- Students **should** practice physical distancing where possible
- All staff and students **must** wear a face mask. They can wear a shield as additional protection but a shield cannot be worn without a mask. A face mask must cover the nose and mouth; scarves and bandanas do not meet this requirement.
- Staff do not have to wear a mask while teaching, but must do so at all other times.
- Anyone who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition must provide the College with a medical certificate and have it on their person at all times.

- Our VCAL team has been busy making masks for our community and will be providing our students with masks. We thank them for the great effort in supporting our community.
- **No parent/carer to come on site without a prior appointment.**
- All signage in relation to physical distancing must be adhered to when on site
- Parent meetings will be conducted via phone and/or video conferencing (Webex).

The following Learning Protocols will be in place:

- If year levels are present onsite, the provision of learning will be onsite. There will be no combination of remote learning and onsite learning for students. Exception to this rule may include students who are immunocompromised or with circumstances beyond their control that are preventing them from attending school. If your child is in this category, please contact your child's sub school leader to discuss the situation. The leadership at the College will review each case and identify the best appropriate supports.
- We will continue to encourage physical distancing for students. Students will be expected to avoid gathering together in close proximity and reminders about this will be communicated to our students prior to attending on site. Staff will always remain vigilant in encouraging physical distancing.
- There will be designated areas for each year level to place themselves at recess and lunchtime. No year levels will be mixing. Your Sub School Leaders will communicate the designated areas directly to the students. Please check Compass newsfeed for details.
- Lockers will be available for students to use with students being asked not to congregate or linger in the locker bays.

The following hygiene protocols will be in place:

- Hand sanitiser will be readily available for use. There will be hand sanitiser in every staff office, classroom and upon entry to Reception.
- Students must undertake regular hand hygiene including on arrival at school, before and after eating, after blowing nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet. Reminders will be in place including signage at the College and via electronic and print media forms including student briefings via Webex prior to learning recommencing onsite and on arrival at the college.
- Students will not be able to drink from water fountains and these will be closed for personal use. Students will be allowed to fill a personal bottle from taps. Signage will indicate locations. Students must bring their own **water bottles** every day to school. Students should not be sharing water bottles.

- As per College and department rules, use of mobile phones is not permitted at all during the school day. Please refer to the mobile phone policy that can be found on our website.
- Students are to bring in their devices to use during the school day (their own or those devices they borrowed from the school) and they are to take them home each night. No sharing of devices is permitted. This is to limit cross contamination as they are breathed on, touched etc.
- Strict hygiene practices must be implemented by all staff and students, including covering sneezes and coughs with the elbow, placing tissues immediately in the bin, avoiding touching one's eyes, nose, and mouth, not sharing food and drink, encouraging non-contact greetings and not using mobile phones or sharing devices.
- The canteen will not be operational for the remainder of this year. We are a closed campus and students cannot leave the school site during the day. Students must bring lunch and snacks with them to school each day.
- Students are reminded to bring the necessary equipment for class, including pens, pencils, rulers, calculators, etc; sharing of resources will not be allowed.
- Windows and doors will be kept open where possible to increase fresh air into indoor spaces.

If a student or staff member becomes unwell during the school day, they must present to First Aid immediately for assessment. Contactless thermometers will be available on site and temperatures will be checked should students present to First Aid. Should the student or staff member display any signs/symptoms associated with Covid-19, they will be isolated in an appropriate space and are required to be collected by a parent/guardian (student) or leave the campus immediately (staff member). Staff or students experiencing compatible symptoms with coronavirus (COVID-19) should be encouraged to seek the advice of their healthcare professional who can advise on next steps. A medical certificate is not required to return to an education setting after a period of illness, however staff and students should not return until symptoms resolve.

The following cleaning protocols will be in place:

- High use areas will be cleaned frequently – we will have two cleaners on site to do this from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Increase the amount of fresh air available indoors by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning, weather permitting where possible
- Provide bins in every classroom for used tissues, and empty them regularly throughout the day

Other general information:

There will be no canteen operational for students to use this term. Please make sure students come to school with food and a water bottle. We are a closed campus and students are to remain on site for the duration of the school day. They will not be allowed to go off site for any reason.

We will be conducting **Parent Teacher Conferences** via Webex on **Monday October 19;** bookings are essential and can be made on **Compass**. The interviews will be available during the school day via Webex (links to individual teachers will be available once bookings are made) 9:00am – 3:00pm; 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. This is an opportunity for parents to check in with staff and have a 5 minute conference in relation to your child's learning during semester 2. If for some reason you are unable to make this time, I would encourage you to contact your child's teacher directly for any feedback or concerns you may have. All communication will be done via phone or through video conferencing until we are advised by the Victorian Chief Health Officer that it is safe for face to face meetings.

I once again want to thank our whole school community for working together to achieve a great transition in the way we engaging in Teaching and Learning. We look forward to the 26th of October, where we will have our whole school community on site, together again.

Stay Safe

Warm Regards

Konnie Prades
Principal
October 9th 2020