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Grammar

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MADDINGLEY CAMPUS

18 October 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to update you on where we are currently at with the COVID situation at the School. As throughout this crisis we are looking in our response to balance reasonable requirements to protect the health of students, staff and the community with the equally valid desire for students to be back at school. I am also at this time of the year have a further prime consideration of the protection of the Year 12 students and their examination period.

The School has three confirmed cases of COVID-19 at present. Those students (Year 8 and Year 12) were at school when it could reasonably be inferred that they may be infectious. We have asked that all students in Years 8 and 12 seek testing as a matter of some urgency.

The School has commenced the process of cleaning the Senior School where the students were on Wednesday to Friday. This process is likely to continue until Thursday 21 October. The Premier has also announced an early return to school for everyone in Regional Victorian schools commencing this Friday 22 October.

As a result of all of these considerations, we have decided to modify this week's return to school schedule to the following (*Please note these arrangements may change subject to DHHS advice*) and are different to what happened last term:

1. Prep to Year 2

May attend the campus for onsite learning on all days this week.

2. Year 3 & 4

Will attend onsite on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. They will be online on Thursday and will return to onsite learning on Friday 22 October.

3. Year 5 & 6

Will be online until Wednesday 20 October and then return to onsite learning from Thursday 21 October.

4. Year 7

Will be engaged on online learning until Tuesday 19 October and then onsite learning from Wednesday 20 October.

5. Year 8

Any Year 8 students declared a personal close contact by DHHS must follow any advice they are provided by DHHS. Year 8 students who are not declared primary close contacts may return to school onsite from Wednesday 20 October. Students will be asked to obtain a negative COVID-19 test result before returning to school.



6. **Year 9 & 10**

Will work online until Tuesday 19 October and return onsite on Wednesday 20 October, will be online Thursday 21 October and onsite Friday 22 October.

7. **Year 11**

Will work online until Tuesday 19 October and will return onsite from Wednesday 20 October. This may alter for students engaged in a Unit 3/4 Examinations. Further information to follow.

8. **Year 12**

One of our prime concerns at present is the protection of the Year 12 Examinations. As such classes will remain online for the remainder of the week and end of year activities will be postponed until after the examination period. There will be changed arrangements for SWOT-VAC. Further information to follow.

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Year Level	Monday 18/10	Tuesday 19/10	Wednesday 20/10	Thursday 21/10	Friday 22/10
Prep to Year 2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Year 3 & 4	Online	✓	✓	Online	✓
Year 5 & 6	Online	Online	Online	✓	✓
Year 7	Online	Online	✓	✓	✓
Year 8	Online	Online	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *
Year 9 & 10	Online	Online	✓	Online	✓
Year 11	Online	Online	✓ **	✓ **	✓ **
Year 12	Online	Online	Online	Online	SWOT-VAC

***Year 8 Only if not a personal close contact**

**** Year 11 Only if not a personal close contact**

Finding the right path through the last 18 months has been difficult, however, no time has been as challenging as now. We are also clearly in a transition period where as we move towards mass vaccination, we are going to need to carry on with COVID being normalised as part of the things we deal with rather than something that we totally isolate from. Equally, we cannot ignore the need to minimise risk and protect the vulnerable. Whilst you may not necessarily agree with the position we take and at times may get frustrated we are attempting to get through this is a way that best balances the demands on us, and which ultimately gets students back to school as safely and as quickly as possible.

There will be further advice forward once it comes to head.

Kind regards,

Mr Andrew A. Neal - Principal