

St Michael's Parish School

ASHBURTON

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22nd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term Three has been a challenging period for all of us but, as we look forward with hope to Term Four, I would like to express my gratitude for all of the support you have offered to everyone at St Michael's. We can be proud of everything we have accomplished; despite the adversity we have faced.

With the challenges of Term Three now hopefully behind us, I am pleased to be able to write to you with further information about the expected return of onsite learning in Term Four.

Term Four is important for every student, and our teachers will strive to deliver high-quality learning for everyone. Whether we're teaching remotely or face-to-face, our focus for Term Four is on making sure that every student is supported in his/her wellbeing, learning and transition needs.

Subject to the advice of the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has announced there will be a staged approach for students to return to onsite schooling. As the return to onsite schooling is linked to the average daily case rate, we must continue to follow the restrictions and wear masks where required. We will also need to be agile, as dates and specifics may change in the coming weeks.

As we are a primary school in metropolitan Melbourne, the specifics of our return will be different from other schools in Victoria, so I am providing the following guidance, which is subject to change.

Saturday 19 September – Sunday 4 October

- Term Three school holidays

Monday 5 October – Friday 9 October

- Term Four Remote Learning will recommence for all students

The onsite supervision program that was provided in Stage Four Restrictions for Term Three for vulnerable children and children of permitted workers will be available. Both parents working outside of the home must provide a form signed by his/her employer. I am required to have a copy of these signed forms before a student can be onsite.

From Monday 12 October

- **Students in Prep to Year Two will return to onsite learning**
- Following the advice of Victoria's Chief Health Officer, students at schools will receive a temperature check every morning, with thermometers provided by the state government.
- Parents and carers will be required to wear face coverings whenever they leave the house, including for school drop-off and pick-up.

All students from Year Three to Six will continue with remote and flexible learning until further notice. A date for the return of these year levels to onsite learning will be subject to further health advice. Children of permitted workers and vulnerable students can continue to attend onsite.

As onsite schooling resumes, we will continue to have in place strong measures to protect the health and safety of students, staff, families and the community. This includes staggering start and finish times, restricting parent access to school grounds, and continuing to emphasise hand hygiene and physical distancing where possible. If you, your child or a family member develop symptoms of fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, or loss of smell or taste, please get tested at a coronavirus (COVID-19) testing facility and stay home.

I will continue to provide updates as specifics or changes are confirmed. These updates will include staggered drop off and pick up times for our Prep to Year Two students.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Meredith Bennett
Principal