



Information for Parents and Students regarding the new requirements for schools in this new period of COVID – 19.

12 July, 2020.

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

There have been recent updates from the Victorian Government and the Victorian Chief Health Officer. Firstly, Years 11 and 12 students and Year 10 students undertaking a VCE subject will return to school on Monday 13 July. Years 7 to 10 students will return to online learning, as of Monday 20 July. Procedures will be as they were in Term 2. We will accommodate children of essential workers and students with special needs here at school as we did in Term 2 as well.

Directives from the Victorian Chief Health Officer have resulted in procedures to ensure the safety of students at school. These are outlined below.

1. Temperature Checks

Checking the temperature of staff and students upon arrival at school has become a new requirement. The College will have three temperature checking stations to facilitate this process.

1. **In the underpass alongside the C Block.**
2. **The path alongside the oval leading to the Knox area.**
3. **As you enter the Northern Gardens from the back gate.**

A sign will direct staff and students to the **Temperature Checking Station** closest to entry. Staff members will be at each station to take temperatures.

The College has been directed that if a student has a temperature of 37.5 degrees celsius or above the College will be required to contact parents/guardians before the student is sent home. If a student has a temperature above 37.5 degrees celsius, firstly there will be a retest. If the temperature is still above 37.5 degrees celsius, the student will be asked to step aside for two minutes. There will be another temperature check. If the temperature is still above 37.5 degrees celsius, the student will be directed to an alternative area, where parents/guardians will be contacted to collect the student.

Students who arrive at school early need to go to the Temperature Checking Station at Student Services. Year 10 students arriving for their VCE class, Year 12 students with a late start and students arriving late must report to Student Services and have their temperature taken.

Any staff member or student who has a cold, fever, sore throat, runny nose or sniffle is not to come to school. The advice from health authorities is to be tested for COVID-19 if you have any of these symptoms. If a student is not at school, the usual procedure of **contacting the school** needs to be followed. This means that we can follow up any absences in our usual manner.



2. Wearing of Masks

The health authorities have advised that we should be wearing masks if we cannot guarantee appropriate physical distancing when we are outside our homes. They particularly referred to supermarket shopping and public transport where physical distancing is a challenge.

The wearing of masks has **not been mandated** at schools, but if students are travelling on public transport it is recommended that they do wear a mask. Students can also wear a mask at school - it is up to each student to make that decision. Some teachers may be wearing masks. **Masks are not compulsory yet - but this may change.**

3. Reasons to be out of your home

Staff members and students should not be out of home for any other reason than the four identified by the health authorities: **medical appointments, essential shopping, work or study if necessary, and exercise.** At this stage attendance at School for VCE on site classes is required. Students are to travel directly to and from school.

4. Appropriate Health Measures

Please remember all the advice that we have been hearing from the health authorities:

1. **Cough and sneeze hygiene** - use tissues and dispose of them appropriately and immediately, or cough and sneeze into your elbow
2. **Hand hygiene** - wash your hands, sanitise your hands at every opportunity
3. **Wipe down** surfaces
4. **Physical distancing** - no hugging, embracing (etc.!) when at school and when travelling to and from school on public transport and when walking in the street
5. **Any sign of a cold stay home and get tested**
6. **The four reasons to be out of home** - medical appointments, essential shopping, work or study if necessary, and exercise.

Physical distancing can be difficult at school. Please be very mindful of staff members and students when in the classroom, when moving about and when around the school grounds.

5. Cleaning

The cleaning that took place on return last term will continue this term. Please take every opportunity to wipe down surfaces when appropriate. The health and safety of all in our community is the responsibility of **all** in our community. We cannot just leave it to others. Sadly, we in Melbourne are suffering the consequences of people not taking their responsibility seriously.

We do look forward to welcoming all our Year. 11 and 12 students along with the Year 10 students undertaking VCE studies on Monday 13 July. The details of online learning for Years 7 to 10 are still in the infant stages however I anticipate that we will revert back to what we did at Nazareth quite successfully throughout Term 2. Further information will be passed on when we know exactly what the directives are for Year 7 to 10 classes.



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Thank you for your support and for taking on the responsibility in a mature and appropriate manner as we continue to live with the challenge of COVID-19. Please contact the College if you have any concerns or questions.

Take care, stay safe and God bless you and your families.

Sam Cosentino.
Principal.