

13 July 2020

Dear Students and Families,

I hope that this update finds you well and doing all that you can, to ensure that you, your family and the community remain safe.

As you would be aware, the state government has made the very difficult decision that schools will return to remote and flexible learning for most students in Prep to Year 10 from Monday 20 July 2020.

It is very important to note that the Victorian Chief Health Officer has advised that schools can continue to operate. The Chief Health Officer has also provided advice about the health measures that should be taken by staff and students, and we will be following these.

The purpose of these changed arrangements is to reduce the number of students and families moving across metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire in order to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Arrangements beginning on Monday 20 July

From Monday 20 July, students will once again be *Learning from Home*. This will apply to all students apart from the following:

- Students whose parents/carers cannot make suitable arrangements to supervise them at home.
- Students who are vulnerable and cannot work from home.
- Students with disabilities who choose to attend onsite.

Year 10 students taking a VET at CRC Sydenham will have classes on site. Students taking a VCE will be learning remotely for the first two weeks of term, with further advice from Sydenham at the end of this time.

Students who will be working onsite

If your child is coming to school, please let us know so that we have adequate staffing in place.

- i) Email enquiries@crcstalbens.com.au
- ii) By phone on the normal school number 9366 2544
- iii) Vietnamese Multicultural Aide: Mr Tung Phan on **0428 045 680**
- iv) Arabic Multicultural Aide: Ms Louna Ghawi on **0437 210 544**
- v) Dinka Multicultural Aide: Mr Deng Alier on **0428 158 780**

Laptops and Books

Students who need to collect books or laptops can do so on any day this week from 8.30 – 3.30pm. Please enter via the College office. We ask that adults who bring students to school wait in the car as we cannot have you on site.

Internet Access

If any family is having difficulties with internet access, please contact the school so that we can work out what we can do.

Fee Relief

This second period of lockdown has put further pressure on the Victorian economy and jobs. If parents / carers have lost their jobs, been stood down temporarily or had their hours reduced, the College will do all we can to support families with fee relief. This may mean putting fees on hold in the short term and / or working out a payment plan in the longer term.

Please contact Anne Ross the College Bursar who will assist with this. Anne can be contacted by email or phone as follows:

1. **Email:** crcaccounts@crcstalbens.com.au OR
2. **Phone:** 0482 900 216

The latest information about coronavirus (COVID-19) and schools is available on the Catholic Education Melbourne website: www.cem.edu.au/Coronavirus.aspx.

Face Masks at School

Victoria's Chief Health Officer has confirmed that the use of face masks or coverings by adults or children is not recommended in schools at this time. As has always been the case, students who wish to wear face masks in school and when going to and from school may do so.

Temperature Checks

All students who attend school will have their temperature taken on arrival. During this period of remote and flexible learning, entry to the College will be via the door near the office only.

Google Meets

With the return to *Learning from Home*, Google Meets will also be introduced at Years 7 and 8. This will assist in making classes more responsive and interactive, and assist teachers in explaining work, modelling and providing feedback.

And, finally, a reminder that if you, your child or a family member develop symptoms of a fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, or loss of smell or taste, you should get tested at a coronavirus (COVID-19) testing facility and stay home.

If you would like health information from the Department of Health and Human Services, you can visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.

This is a tough time for everyone across metropolitan Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire but we know that if each of us does our bit, we can turn it around. We have done it once already.

I know that remote learning isn't easy, especially the second time round, but encourage all students to engage fully with *Learning from Home*. Your teachers are working very hard to ensure that it is as effective and engaging as it can be.

I will continue to communicate with you as soon as we receive further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christina Utri', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christina Utri
Principal