



COVID-19 Communication 13

12 May 2020

Dear Parents,

In light of this morning's unexpected news conference, the Premier, Education Minister and Chief Medical Officer made some detailed announcements regarding return to face to face schooling. A very important part of the details was that, after the 160,000 tests done in the last 2 weeks, the Victorian Chief Health Officer is now able to be confident that schools are safe places. This brings Victoria's position into alignment with the Federal government and other states views.

I am therefore now in a position to bring you the details of PVCC's return to onsite-learning plan.

Plenty Valley Christian College Staged Return to Face to Face

The government schools' return plan is very similar to our "Plan A" with one difference - our "Take a Breath Day".

Friday 22 May - Student free "Take a Breath Day" for all students from **P to 12** - no work will be set for students (this is **different** from government schools). **Plenty Kids** will operate as normal.

Monday 25 May - Student free day - no work will be set for students, preparation day at home for students and at school for all staff (same as government schools). **Plenty Kids** will operate as normal.

Tuesday 26 May - P-2, VCAL and VCE (Year 11, 12 including Yr 10 students studying a Unit 1 & 2 subject) will return to face to face learning at school. **Years 3 - 10** will continue remote learning (same as government schools).

Tuesday 9 June - Years 3 -10 return to face to face (all students back at school) - all remote learning suspended, with provisions made for those students who are immunocompromised (same as government schools).

Calendar/Holidays

Now we have the return dates, the College is reconsidering the structure of the calendar/holidays to work out the structure that best facilitates student learning given our unusual year. More information to come with as much notice as possible.

Arrowsmith Program

Separate communication will be coming from Mrs Julia Walker.

Hygiene and Distancing

While schools have been declared safe places, there will be increased hygiene and distancing practices enacted at PVCC for, at least, the rest of Term 2.

Only essential adults will be permitted into the College. Parents will not be permitted to leave their cars at drop off and pick up, or to enter College buildings (except for Plenty Kids Parents who are required to sign in children in person). The College will be altering the way we use the parking areas at school so that this can be accomplished safely and effectively. Finish times will change for some students to allow a better flow of traffic.



Uniform

For the rest of Term 2, students will be expected to attend in school uniform. We are aware that many families may not be provisioned for a Winter term yet. We are also aware that the changes we have experienced in learning styles are not simple ones and we do not want uniform to add to the challenge for some students moving from a comfortable relaxed home learning environment, back to structured formal school. We care about student wellbeing and so will be showing an extra measure of grace in the area of uniform. The items worn should all be PVCC uniform items and we would *prefer* not a mixture of formal and sport uniforms. Sports uniform can be worn on non-sport days. If students are not able to meet the requirements, parents should write to their homeroom teacher asking for a temporary exemption. Term 3 will be back to normal uniform requirements.

VCE Information Virtual Chat 7:00pm Monday 18 May

Mrs Goodacre has been keeping up with information regarding the changes to the VCE requirements. She sent that information home last week and now offers VCE students and parents an opportunity to hear some more details from her, as well as ask questions. Mrs McDonald and I will also be available for questions.

Q & As Coming

We are aware that there will be many questions regarding re-entry to face to face learning. We will be providing some question and answer sessions on video (accessible on YouTube) and in writing. If you have particular questions, don't hesitate to send them through and we will endeavour to answer them all (if your question is deemed quite specific we'll point you to a classroom teacher to answer). Send your questions to sally.agostino@pvcc.vic.edu.au

This move out of lockdown brings another sudden change and requires us all to adjust our thinking about so many things. It takes time to adjust for teachers, for parents and for students. Don't underestimate the effect it will have on your children as they do something completely different ... again. It takes time to plan and internally prepare and for that adjustment. This is part of the reason for "Take a Breath Day" and the staggered start.

I pray that you all may know God's Shalom through this time. Shalom is a peace and contentment that is unexpected and comes from knowing God's got this.

Yours in Christ's Service

John Metcalfe
Principal