



COVID-19 Communication 15

22 May 2020

Dear Parents,

VCE Exam Dates

Last night, unexpectedly, the Premier and the Minister for Education announced that the VCE written examination period will run from Monday, 9 November until Wednesday, 2 December 2020. This is earlier than previously communicated to us but the modification of the VCE curriculum makes it possible. Our teachers are presently working on their teaching program and are confident our senior students will be able to complete the modified curriculum. We are expecting to receive the exam timetable prior to the start of Term 3.

This is great news for our VCE and VCAL students, as dates now align more closely to a normal year. ATAR scores can be calculated in December and results received before the end of 2020. It also helps us align better with other states, which will benefit universities making offers.

The date for the General Achievement Test has also now been confirmed as Wednesday, 9 September 2020.

At Plenty Valley Christian College, we will continue to run our Year 12 classes until Friday, 23 October. There will then be time for some traditional Year 12 celebrations early the following week.

Term 3 Start Date

Term 3 will now start on Wednesday, 15 July which is earlier than previously advertised. This will help us catch up for any time lost during Remote Learning.

Fees

We are aware that a number of families have been seriously affected by the lockdown. The College Board has made it clear that we want to continue to support our community through this time. Our new Business Manager, Peter Bain, wants to hear from any families experiencing hardship at this time. He will talk to you about how we can work together to find assistance and support.

Please talk to us.

Students Returning

We are all excited about students returning on Tue 26 May (K - 2, 11 and 12) and then all year levels being together back at school on Tuesday 9 June.

Seniors - Bring Your Own Device

This year we transitioned to a BYOD Senior School. All students must bring their own computing device as there will be limited access to shared devices as they become high contamination areas.

Starting Times – the same as usual, Primary 8:50am and Secondary 8:40am.

Uniform – Students are expected to wear PVCC uniform. For the rest of Term 2 they may wear either sports or formal uniform as parents choose, allowing time to purchase winter uniform that fits.

Remote Learning – will continue only for Year 3 to 10 until 9 June.



If you are unable to educate your Year 3 to 10 students at home - from May 26 – June 9, we will still be running supervised sessions at school for students of families who are not able to supervise them at home. As the economy begins to reopen you may need to use this service. You **must** contact the College office to **book your children in** so we can arrange the right amount of supervision.

Students not able to return yet – if your family has particular circumstances where you would not want to send your child to school yet, you should contact your Head of Sub-School and explain the circumstances. Some work will be made available for these students, but we are unable to offer Remote Learning once their year levels return to face to face teaching. Heads of Sub-school are: Primary – Mrs Rebecca Matthews, Middle – Mr Paul Oldman, Senior – Mrs Lily McDonald.

Increased Hygiene and Cleaning

- We have increased our **cleaning program** to meet the standards set out for school return. This includes a number of cleans of high touch points and play equipment each day.
- We will conduct non-invasive **random temperature checks** in classes. Sending your child will serve as **permission to do this**. If you have any concerns, please contact the College nurse.
- Students **must** bring their **own water bottle** as there will be no bubblers available. Taps will be available to refill bottles. Please name the bottles.
- Students **may not share any equipment**, phones, devices so they should bring all their own equipment.
- Shared **college equipment** will be disinfected after each use.
- **Sanitiser** is available in all areas and students will be encouraged to wash their hands often
- While **social distancing** is not required in classrooms (evidence indicates extremely low infection and carrying of infection in young people), we will be asking students to practice social distancing where possible to train them for being in areas that are not school or home. There will be no large group assemblies, at this stage, and smaller assemblies will have the students spaced out appropriately.
- Each sub-school will have **separate play areas** to reduce the number of others students come into contact with.
- Students with any **symptoms** should not attend college. Parents will be required to collect students who are displaying any symptoms.
- In the unlikely event of one of our **community members testing positive** to the virus, all students will be separated into class groups and parents will be informed by email, text and on the College app to come and collect them. The Health Department will then take control of the situation to disinfect and trace contacts.

Carpark

The greatest risk of transmission is between adults, making the drop-off and pick-up times the most dangerous. Early Years (Prep-2) students should be picked up and dropped off in the Early Years carpark behind the EY building. This will not be a parking area but a continuous drop-off or pick-up. More information will be sent on Monday.

Parents of older students may park in the usual carpark areas but should not leave their car.

Camp Australia

Camp Australia will be running an out of school program on Monday 25 May. Please contact them on <https://www.campastralia.com.au>



Deliveries

Any adults delivering anything for students or staff should leave them at the reception areas for collection.

As we enter a new phase with another time of significant change it will take energy and perseverance for parents, students and staff. We are praying for a smooth transition, but we need to look after each other. Grace and encouragement will be needed all round. We are a strong community and I am confident that, with God's, we can make it work.

John Metcalfe
Principal

PVCC