

15th May, 2020



Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

**RE: Students returning to school**

Thank you for your support during these past few weeks of remote and flexible learning. Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government and the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) have advised that schools can begin a phased return to onsite schooling.

In the **first stage**, senior secondary students (Years 11 and 12 VCAL and VCE) will return to school from **Tuesday 26th May**. Further to this, Year 10 students undertaking VCE or VET studies, should attend school on those days when these classes are timetabled. Year 10 students unable to travel home at the end of their scheduled VCE/VET classes may remain at school for the remainder of the day and access a supervised study space.

To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, Monday 25th May will be a student-free day.

In the **second stage** of our return to onsite learning, Year 7 - 10 students will return to school from **Tuesday 9th June**.

In accordance with our current procedures, those students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children, the existing model of onsite supervision will remain in place during the two-week period from Tuesday 26th May to Tuesday 9th June. If onsite supervision is required during this two week period you are required to contact the College Office.

Once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children at home after their year level has returned to onsite learning, we can no longer support their learning from home. This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan. This same approach is being taken by all Catholic and government schools in Victoria.

To support the health and wellbeing of all students and staff, our school will continue an enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent handwashing. We have an abundance of hand sanitiser that will be readily accessible across the campus. **If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice.**

While the Chief Health Officer has advised that students will not be required to maintain physical distancing at school, there will be a number of important changes to our school operations, consistent with health advice that will be made available in coming days.

We understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken on the basis of the best health advice available to our state.

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the CECV website, which will continue to be updated: [www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents](http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents).

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time. We look forward to welcoming students back to the classroom.

The next communication with our community will be provided on Thursday 21st May, 2020. This communication will provide further detail regarding social distancing and other measures the College will put in place to adhere to the guidelines provided by the Chief Medical Officer.

With Peace and Goodwill,

**Matt Carver**  
**Principal**

**ST MARY OF THE ANGELS SECONDARY COLLEGE**

Chapel Street, Nathalia, Victoria, 3638

Ph: (03) 5866 2222 | Fax: (03) 5866 2471

Email: [info@smotanathalia.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@smotanathalia.catholic.edu.au) | Website: [www.smotanathalia.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smotanathalia.catholic.edu.au)