

COVID 19 – Face Masks.

To parents/carers

In this concerning time I write to reassure you that we are doing all we can at our school to ensure your children - our students and the school community are safe. Our teachers and support staff are reassuring and educating your children if they have any concerns regarding the pandemic. Our school has undertaken safety measures recommended by the Department of Education that are designed to keep us all as safe as possible. As a school we have introduced hand hygiene, social distancing and taking staff and student temperatures on arrival. All of the students have adopted these measures. In line with government advice we are now implementing the wearing of face coverings- where possible.

I received the following advice (in italics, below) from the Department of Education regarding the wearing of face masks in schools. Please note that students with a disability are not required to wear a face covering but I am encouraging all students to wear a face mask or covering for their safety as much as the safety of other staff and students. Please work with your child, as we will at school, to wear a face covering, if possible.

I must also draw your attention to the last point that - parents and carers are expected to wear face coverings when dropping off or picking up students.

I will, of course, use discretion and common sense in supporting staff and students with these matters.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me on: 59 756 111.

Thank you

David.

In line with advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has announced that those in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire must wear a face covering when they leave home from 11.59pm on Wednesday 22 July 2020.

Face coverings will be mandatory for people aged 12 and over. These measures will slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and help protect the community.

In schools, this means that school-based staff and secondary school students in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire will be required to wear a face covering.

The Victorian Chief Health Officer has advised that any face covering will be acceptable – it does not need to be a surgical mask.

For schools in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire

All school-based staff must wear face coverings at school, and when travelling to and from school.

Teachers and education support staff will not be required to wear face coverings while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can. Teachers should wear face coverings in other areas of the school when not teaching (for example, in the staffroom, on yard duty and when providing first aid or taking temperatures), and when travelling to and from school.

Students or staff who have a medical condition - including problems with their breathing, a serious skin condition on the face, a disability or a mental health condition - are not required to wear a face covering. This includes students who attend specialist schools.

Parents/carers will be required to wear face coverings whenever they leave the house, including for school drop off and pick up.