



6<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear parents and carers.

**Arrangements for students returning to our school.**

Premier Daniel Andrews and Minister for Education James Merlino today announced, yesterday, that, subject to final health advice,

*"Primary school students, students studying VCE and VCAL, and students attending specialist schools will return to face-to-face learning in metropolitan Melbourne from Monday 12 October."*

**That is, Mornington SDS will be open for all students next Monday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. The buses will run as normal for student pick-ups and drop-offs.**

Please note the following restrictions and arrangements taken from the Department's Operations Guide to support the school's COVID 19 prevention strategies.

**Visitors**

Visitors to school grounds must be limited to those delivering or supporting essential school services and operations (such as student health and wellbeing services, and safety, cleaning and maintenance workers). Visitors to school grounds must comply with physical distancing and face mask advice provided by the school.

Additional staff, including parent volunteers, must not attend school at this time.

**Parent Teacher interviews**

Parent-teacher information sessions and interviews must continue to be replaced with online and video alternatives.

**School Tours**

Schools must not conduct on-site school tours for prospective students and their families at this time. (We have produced a "Virtual Tour which is available to view on our website.)

**Assemblies / excursions/ camps**

Face-to-face school assemblies and other non-essential large gatherings must be postponed or adapted considering use of technology. (No Christmas BBQ for this year, for example.)

School camps and excursions cannot take place at this time.

**Face Coverings**

All school-based staff must wear face coverings at school. Some students and staff are exempt from these requirements, this includes students who attend specialist schools are unable to wear a face covering due to the nature of their disability. This also includes students or staff who have a medical condition, such as problems with their breathing, a serious skin condition on the face, a disability or a mental health condition.

**Hand sanitiser**

Hand sanitiser will be available at entry points to classrooms and education will be provided on hand hygiene.

Playground equipment can be used by students. However, students should practise hand hygiene before and after use.

P.T.O

**Temperature checks**

In order to support community awareness of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) and to help identify children displaying symptoms, all schools should undertake temperature screening of students participating in the on-site supervision program while the stay at home restrictions are in place.

**Other**

Students should bring their own water bottle for use at school as students should not drink directly from drinking fountains at this time. Taps may be used to refill water bottles.

The Department's Students Using Mobile Phones Policy remains in place.

*If you have any questions or concerns please contact me on the details below.*

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