

8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Once again, I wish to extend my thanks to all our students, parents, carers and staff for their continued resilience and support throughout this year. I know remote and flexible learning has not always been easy, but through our collective efforts, our students have continued to make valuable progress in their learning.

Term 4 is important for every Victorian student, and our staff will strive to deliver high-quality learning for everyone. Whether we're teaching remotely or face-to-face, our focus for Term 4 is on making sure that every student is supported in their wellbeing, learning and transition needs.

#### **TERM 4 SCHOOLING ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENTS**

Following advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has released a staged approach for students to return to on-site schooling.

The purpose of the plan is to get students back in the classroom as soon and as safely as possible without putting at risk all that has been achieved through the period of restrictions to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

With the commencement of Term 4 and the onset of warmer weather, I take the opportunity to remind families of the College Uniform Policy. The uniform is important symbolically and when worn correctly, informs others that the student takes pride and belongs to the Greensborough College community. The uniform also assists teachers in maintaining the safety of our students. You will find information on our website and links to Noone Imagewear, the suppliers of our college uniform. With the new uniform to be totally phased in at the beginning of 2022, any student from Years 7-10 needing new items of uniform will need to purchase the new uniform.

**For our College, the following arrangements apply:**

#### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October (1st week of Term 4)**

Remote and flexible learning has continued for all year levels this week. The Year 11 and 12 students undertook the General Achievement Test on Wednesday and some VCE classes have been undertaking essential assessments on Thursday and Friday on site.

#### **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October (2nd week of Term 4)**

- Students in Years 7, 11 and 12 and Year 10 students enrolled in a VCE subject will attend on-site for these classes on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. Remote learning will not continue for these year levels after this date.
- Students in Years 10 to 12 can participate in their VET studies, where these are held in other locations. A range of health and safety measures will be put in place by the relevant training organisation (RTO) to minimise risk associated with learning outside the school environment.
- Students in Year 7 will return to full-time on-site schooling on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Remote learning will not continue for this year level after this date.
- All students from Years 8 to 10 will continue with remote and flexible learning. On-site supervision will be available for limited eligible students, consistent with DET guidelines.

#### **From Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October (Week 4 Term 4)**

- Students in Years 8-10 will return to full-time schooling on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Remote learning will not continue for these students after this date.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

The Term 3 remote and flexible learning arrangements were put in place to significantly reduce the movement of more than one million students and their families across Victoria, to help slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). As on-site schooling resumes, we will continue to have in place strong measures to protect the health and safety of students, staff, families and the community. Key measures being implemented at Greensborough College are summarised below.

### Year 11 and 12 Students

- Senior students will be required at school **all day every day**. When students have a study period they will be supervised in the study centre. Extra support will be provided to students in the study centre to assist them with revision, studying and preparation for assessments.

### Health and Safety

Families are reminded that in accordance with Department of Education and Training and Department of Health and Human Services guidelines.

- Students and staff are to stay home if they are unwell. If you have any symptoms please get tested. If your child is being tested for the coronavirus please advise the College of this and the outcome.
- All unwell students will be excluded from attending classes and must remain at home until symptoms resolve and seek medical assistance as required. Students requiring on-site First Aid will be initially assessed at the College and if required, arrangements for their immediate collection from the College are to be made by the parent/carer.

### Student drop-off and pick-Up

There will be no change to start and finish times.

- Parents/Carers are to park in the street and to drop off and pick up students in the street. Students can access the site from the usual entry points.
- There will be NO access to the staff car parks.
- The gravel car park on the corner of Nell and Longmuir Street is now closed to all cars. Staff will be using the sealed car parks at the Nell Street end and the Nepean Street entrance.
- We seek your full support with this direction.

### Other Health and Safety Measures

- Students will be required to bring their own water bottle for use at school. There will be limited taps available for the purpose of refilling water bottles. It should be noted that drinking fountains will not be available for student use.
- The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) continues to emphasise that hygiene requirements must continue to be practised and that handwashing with soap and warm water for 20 seconds is still the best deterrent against the transmission of COVID-19. Soap will be available for students in all toilet/washroom facilities and various specialist classroom spaces.
- Parents/carers are encouraged to provide hand sanitiser for their child/children's personal use.
- Secondary school students aged 12 years and over must wear a face mask while at school and while travelling to and from school. Clear shields, scarves or bandanas do **not** meet the requirements.
- Based on the advice of the Acting Deputy Chief Health Officer, given the current levels of community transmission in Victoria, mandatory temperature testing of all students on arrival to schools will not be required in Term 4.
- However, should community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) increase, temperature checking may be reintroduced for some schools.

- The canteen will not be open until the **26<sup>th</sup> October**. Students are to bring their own snacks, lunches and drinks.
- Communication through the Main Administration Office will be between the hours of **8.30am – 4.00pm**.
- External visitors, including parents, will need to make prior arrangements by telephone in order to access the College. Most meetings with parents and visitors will be via telephone or video-conferencing.

#### **KEY PRIORITIES**

Whether your child is, or children are, returning to face-to-face learning or will be continuing with remote and flexible learning for a short period, please be assured we will be focused on three key priorities in Term 4:

1. ***Mental health and wellbeing.*** Our highest priority will be the wellbeing, particularly the mental health, of every student and member of staff.
2. ***Learning and excellence.*** Some of our students have thrived in the remote and flexible learning environment, others have maintained their learning progress, and some have fallen behind, despite their best efforts and those of their families and teachers. Our priority will be supporting the learning needs of all of our students.
3. ***Transitions*** We will make every effort to ensure successful transitions for children moving into Year 7, through the other year levels and the Year 12's moving into employment or further education and training.

Our school, working with you, has shown it can be flexible and adaptable in responding to the challenges of coronavirus (COVID-19) and will continue to meet student needs as we look towards the end of the 2020 school year and ahead to 2021.

We look forward to seeing you all very soon. Stay safe and well.

Kind regards,



Pauline Barker  
**Principal**