



St Patrick's College
LAUNCESTON

12 May 2020

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From the Office of the Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian,

RE: Resumption of Face-to-face Learning & Physical Distancing & Hygiene Measures

Welcome to Week 3 of Term Two. As communicated last week, I am writing to inform you of the College's resumption of face-to-face learning.

Please refer to the below to determine the staggered return of students on campus. During the Learning@Home period the College will continue to remain open for children of essential workers; those who don't have suitable supervision at home; or those who don't have the ability, access or support available to provide adequate continuation of learning from home.

RESUMPTION OF FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING

Year 10 TASC, Year 11 & Year 12 Students

All Year 10 TASC, Year 11 and Year 12 students, with the exception of those with chronic health/immune system conditions, will return to school and resume face-to-face learning on Monday, 25 May. Hence the delivery of Learning@Home will cease for these students on Friday, 22 May.

Year 9 Students

All Year 9 students, with the exception of those with chronic health/immune system conditions, will return to school and resume face-to-face learning on Wednesday, 27 May. Hence the delivery of Learning@Home will cease for Year 9 students on Tuesday, 26 May.

Year 7, Year 8 & remainder of Year 10 Students

All Year 7, 8 and the remaining Year 10 students, with the exception of those with chronic health/immune system conditions, will return to school and resume face-to-face learning on Monday, 1 June. Hence the delivery of Learning@Home will cease for these students on Friday, 29 May.

STUDENTS WITH CHRONIC HEALTH/IMMUNE SYSTEM CONDITIONS

"People with chronic conditions or immune system conditions are at greater risk of more serious illness if they are infected with COVID-19."

(Australian Government of Health Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice for people with chronic health conditions, 23 April 2020).

We recognise there may be students with chronic health/immune system conditions who are unable to return to the College for face-to-face learning. In such cases, parents/guardians are required to notify the College using the *Notification of a Student with a Chronic Health/Immune System Condition* form below by Monday, 18 May.

Notification of a Student with a Chronic Health/Immune System Condition Form:

<https://forms.gle/cPPeQbFcmEbABe398>



Comparable curriculum and syllabus to that delivered in the school setting, or adjusted learning plans, will be provided to students who are unable to return to school via the established Learning@Home program until further notice.

UNIFORM

When the College reopens in full capacity, students who require new uniform but are unable to source this may attend in alternate College issued formal uniform for the remainder of the year.

For example, if your child requires new winter uniform and this cannot be sourced, they may attend in summer uniform. Sports uniform is only permitted to be worn on the usual prescribed days.

The College and City Midford Uniform Stores are now operational with amended opening hours. We encourage parents/guardians to avoid attending the College premises unless absolutely necessary and therefore request the use of online ordering or attending the City Midford Store as an alternative to visiting the College Uniform Store. It is also preferred that orders are either home delivered, collected from the City Midford Uniform Store, or only collected by students from the College Uniform Store.

For more information regarding store opening hours and online ordering, please refer to the below link:

Uniform Information: <https://www.stpatricks.tas.edu.au/enrolments/uniform>

HYGEINE

In preparation of all students returning to school, the College will be implementing a number of measures to minimise the risk and spread of infection. This includes providing hand sanitiser in each classroom with the requirement that students use prior to entering and leaving the room; utilising temperature sensors to conduct random checks of students; sanitary wipes or sprays available in practical subjects where students share equipment, and extending the scope of services provided by the College cleaning services.

A number of limitations on student activities will also be enforced, however normal classroom teaching and learning, existing class structures, on grounds physical education, organised Vocational Education Training (VET) work placements, single class religious education events, student transport and some Year 11 and 12 offsite outdoor education course work assessment will continue.

Venue density rules are not applicable to students, however visitors and staff must continue to practice physical distancing measures and parents/guardians are reminded not to enter the College premises unless absolutely necessary.

These measures are likely to remain in place until such time as the threat to vulnerable populations in our society is reduced to an acceptable level, when those populations have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection or effective infection treatments are available.

COVID-19 TESTING & ISOLATION

The Tasmanian Government has expanded its COVID-19 testing program and is now encouraging people to seek a COVID-19 test referral from a GP or the Public Health Hotline should they have any of the following:

- a fever
- runny nose
- cough
- sore/itchy throat
- shortness of breath

Where a member of the immediate household of a student seeks a referral for a COVID-19 test from a GP or Public Health, that student does not need to self-isolate unless the member of their immediate household returns a positive result.



Where a student seeks a referral for a COVID-19 test from a GP or Public Health, then that student must not enter the College premises until they have received their result and it is confirmed as negative. Should they return a positive result, then all members of the household must not enter the College until the member of the household with the COVID-19 infection has been informed by Public Health it is safe for that person to return to their usual activities, and other members of the household have completed their 14-day self-isolation period without developing COVID-19 symptoms or have been cleared by Public Health.

Should a student or any member of their immediate household be directed (e.g. as part of a contact tracing program such as the NW cluster investigations) by Public Health to undergo a COVID-19 test, then all members of the household including the student must not enter the College premises until the person(s) required to undertake testing has been informed by Public Health it is safe for that person(s) to return to their usual activities.

Should a student or any member of their immediate household be diagnosed as being infected with COVID-19 then all members of the household including the student must not enter the College premises until:

1. The person(s) required to undertake screening or testing has been informed by public health authorities it is safe for that person(s) to return to their usual activities.
2. Other members of the household have completed their 14-day self-isolation period without developing COVID-19 symptoms or have been cleared by public health authorities.

COLDS & FLU

Any student with a cold or influenza must stay home until no longer contagious as determined either by a medical practitioner with infectious disease qualifications or as per the following guidance regarding typical adult contagion periods.

Type	When you're first contagious	When you're no longer contagious
Flu ¹	1 day before symptoms start	5-7 days after you get sick with symptoms
Cold ²	1-2 days before symptoms start	Until symptoms are no longer present

1. US Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

2. UK National Health Service

It is important to be aware that, until such time that a COVID-19 vaccine is available, our community will be living with the possibility of changed restrictions and directions from the government at any given time. As a College community, we are therefore required to continue to remain flexible and fluid in response to any unforeseeable future events. We will continue to keep you abreast of any changes as required.

Have a wonderful week.

Kind regards,



Mr Tony Daley
Principal

