



## Emmaus Catholic Parish Primary School Sydenham

Emmaus Catholic Parish Primary School has a commitment to the care, safety and wellbeing of children.

Monday, August 3, 2020

Dear parents, carers, students and staff,

Yesterday, the Victorian Government announced that, on the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, regional and rural Victoria will move to Stage 3 restrictions and metropolitan Melbourne will move to Stage 4 restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

These requirements apply to all schools in metropolitan Melbourne and rural and regional Victoria.

The changes to schools' operations will come into effect for Emmaus from Monday 10th August, following a student free day on Tuesday 4 August, and are likely to apply until the end of Term 3. This week at Emmaus we are currently only teaching via flexible remote learning.

These steps are critical measures to reduce the movement of students, teachers and families across the state.

There are implications for our school, and for families in our school community.

A summary of what the changes mean for schools is below.

### **METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE**

#### **PREP TO YEAR 10**

- Prep to Year 10 students will continue with remote and flexible learning.
- The criteria for students that can attend on-site has changed as follows:
  - **children whose parents are permitted workers.** All parents will need to have letters from their employers demonstrating they are permitted workers. The Victorian Government will provide further advice about this over the coming days
  - **vulnerable children in out of home care, children known to child protection and other agencies and children the school identifies as vulnerable**
  - **children with a disability who also fit one of the above two categories.**

**If you can keep your children home, you must keep them home.**

#### **TIMELINE**

- Tuesday 4 August will be a student-free day across Victoria to enable teachers to meet and to adjust to flexible remote learning for the term. The Emmaus students will not be required to complete learning on this day. Google Meets will not occur today.
- Wednesday 5 August will be the first day of new arrangements for schools across Victoria. Emmaus will continue to participate in flexible remote learning as of today.
- We will send a note home tomorrow for permitted workers with further information about restricted onsite learning.

#### **STAFFING**

- Schools will ensure sufficient staff are available for necessary on site supervision.
- Staff not required for on site supervision will work from home.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Please remember the safest place for us and our loved ones is at home. Let's all do that so we can stop the spread of this insidious virus and we can all be back in each other's company soon.

Take care,

Jackie Byrne

Principal