



Emmaus Catholic Parish Primary School Sydenham

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

Thursday July 9, 2020

Dear Families,

The Victorian Government has made some significant announcements about the introduction of new measures for schools across metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

These include a change to arrangements for schools at the start of Term 3.

As our school is in an affected area, the government's new measures will apply to us.

There will be five student-free days from Monday 13 to Friday 17 July for all of our students. At this stage classes are expected to resume for these students on Monday 20 July 2020. Jim Miles, the Catholic Education Executive Director wrote in a letter I just received,

"A decision about whether these year levels can safely return to face-to-face learning will be made by the Victorian Government in the coming week and based on the advice of our health experts."

All teachers will be back at work on Monday 13th July. Our school will be open for the children of essential workers only. As the government has stipulated, if you can work from home and keep your children at home for this extended holiday please do so.

I know that this may mean another period of uncertainty for you and your family. The school is doing everything it can to mitigate the impact of these changes on our community, and to minimise the impact of this disruption on your child's learning journey.

Only children of essential workers will participate in a holiday program at school run by teachers. This program will begin at 8.30am and will conclude at 3pm daily. The front gate will be opened at 8.30am. The children will have their temperature checked and will apply hand sanitiser as they enter the classroom. Each child will require a snack, their lunch and a water bottle. They will also be required to bring a

coat to school. The school day will conclude at 3pm. We will open the front gates just before 3pm for you to pick up your children in the afternoon. As this is a school holiday program the children may wear casual clothes and sensible shoes.

If you are an essential worker and require your children to be supervised at school could you please email secretary@emsydenham.catholic.edu.au and inform us of the days you require this care for your children. We need to know how many children we are supervising so we can plan accordingly.

Blue Fit Kids - our before and after school care provider, will provide care for the children of essential workers only as usual starting on Monday, July 13. They will be open from 7am - 8.30am and 3pm - 6pm. A letter will follow from Blue Fit Kids explaining their hours and asking you to book your children in.

If there are any changes to the arrangements for the start of Term 3, we will update you as soon as we can.

Please take care and stay safe.

Warm regards,

Jackie Byrne
Principal