



## EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS

23 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

In response to the Victorian State Government announcement last night that all Victorian State Schools will close tomorrow, Tuesday 24 March, I wish to clarify the following points which have caused some confusion for our community.

- State Schools will close to students only – State School staff remain at work and are engaged in the planning for the potential of remote learning for their students
- State Schools have brought the upcoming school holiday period forward and those students are not receiving remote learning for the remainder of this week
- Oakleigh Grammar remains committed to our remote learning plan as communicated with you on Tuesday 17 March – our staff continue to work with students to deliver the best teaching and learning under these challenging circumstances
- Today teachers conducted lessons online from the School campus to our students at home
- Tomorrow teachers will test the on line lesson delivery from their own homes to our students at home
- On Wednesday classes will resume from the School campus to our students at home
- A review of what worked well and what we can improve will be conducted following both these trial to fine-tune and improve our remote learning offerings to students at home

It is critical for parents and care givers to work in partnership with the School in delivering our classes remotely. We seek parents support in ensuring students follow routine and remain engaged and focused during these unusual circumstances. Student rolls will be marked each day as attendance remains a requirement for the School and student reporting. Parents are asked to email absences in the usual way to [absentline@oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au](mailto:absentline@oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au)

In addition, the State Ministers met on 20 March and have decided that NAPLAN will not proceed in 2020. This decision has been taken to assist school leaders, teachers and support staff to focus on the wellbeing of students and the continuity of online remote education. This cancellation applies to all Australian Schools including those in both Government and Independent sectors.

I wish to reassure families of our VCE students that our Head of Senior School, Sharron Frame is in regular contact with the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA) regarding SACs, examinations and course delivery requirements. The VCE allows for considerable flexibility in delivery of learning and the administration of school-based assessments.



### OAKLEIGH GRAMMAR

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Oakleigh Grammar has also taken the initiative to offer all of our staff the option to receive the Flu Vaccine on campus this week. This provides an in-house service for the convenience and welfare of our staff. Whilst the flu vaccine in no way claims to protect people from COVID-19, the flu is also a highly contagious viral infection. Immunisation is the best protection against getting and spreading the flu and we all need to do our part to keep fit and well to avoid putting extra strain on our medical providers at this critical time.

At the time of writing, I am pleased to inform our community that Oakleigh Grammar does not have any known positive COVID-19 infected staff or students. I am hopeful that our swift and prudent approach has helped us keep our students, staff and community as safe as possible.

I wish to take this opportunity to make special mention of the Oakleigh Grammar staff. Our educators and administrators have been working tirelessly over the past few weeks to prepare for our transition to an online curriculum delivery model. Their resilience, commitment and passion for our students has been at the core of all their efforts. I am extremely proud of the way our School community has collectively come together to manage this crisis together with common sense, mindfulness and dedication.

I will continue to communicate to you as events evolve, until then I encourage you to regularly check in to the School's website and the dedicated COVID-19 information tab at <https://www.oakleighgrammar.vic.edu.au/covid-19/>

Yours Sincerely



Mark Robertson

**Principal**

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