



The Kilmore International School

Wednesday, 8 April 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Re: COVID-19 UPDATE

State of emergency in Victoria

As you are aware, a [State of Emergency](#) has been declared in Victoria to manage Coronavirus (COVID-19). A range of restrictions and directions are in place and include staying at home, restrictions on particular activities, detention, restrictions on airports and cruise ships, aged care, hospital visits, isolation and home learning.

Learning from home

Yesterday the Premier, Daniel Andrews, joined Minister for the Coordination of Education and Training – COVID-19, James Merlino, to [announce](#) that following advice from the Chief Health Officer all Victorian Government primary, secondary and special schools will move to remote and flexible learning and teaching. Victorian Government schools will recommence on Tuesday 14 April with a pupil-free day, with students to begin classes on Wednesday 15 April. These new arrangements will remain in place for the duration of Term 2 and will then be reviewed. Their key message is that "all children who can learn at home must learn from home", with exceptions only in extremely limited circumstances for children whose parents can't work from home or for students in Years 11 and 12 with specific learning requirements such as practical work that cannot be conducted at home.

TKIS will follow this advice. Accordingly, **Tuesday 14 April will be a pupil-free day and students will begin classes on Wednesday 15 April at TKIS.** The online learning schedule and guides for students and parents are attached. Please note these guides are also available in the documents section of SEQTA Learn and SEQTA Engage. We have taken the step to move gradually and carefully into remote learning and there may be changes to the schedule in the future, for example additional lessons for IB students. For content delivery, we are mainly using SEQTA at present but we expect to use other platforms such as Zoom for increased video capability and Microsoft Teams or Google Classroom to engage students with virtual face-to-face connections and learning activities. Your child can expect to receive an invitation to join Microsoft Teams from their teacher early next week. For families who don't have access to digital technologies, a limited number of laptops are available from the school. Please contact the IT Help Desk if this is the case or if there is a problem accessing SEQTA or Microsoft Teams. The Deputy Principal, Mr Peter Cooper, is in daily contact with students and parents about our online learning provision.

Please abide by the Government edicts and keep your child at home unless absolutely necessary. As our education programme has moved online, we are not providing a face-to-face teaching programme on site. You will need to contact me in person if you believe your child cannot work from home and have them register in advance with Student Services.

"Excellentia Academica Persequenda"





The Kilmore International School

Student fees

I would like to acknowledge that I have received correspondence enquiring about school fees in light of the move to online learning and the changed financial circumstances of some families. This is something that we have and will continue to evaluate. The cost of implementing our educational programme at this time is unchanged and may even have increased in preparation and transition to remote learning. We very much appreciate the efforts families make in meeting their financial obligations to the school in a timely manner. I trust you will understand that we require full and timely payment of the school fees due for Term 1 if your child is to continue their studies at TKIS. Please arrange a confidential discussion with me if you are experiencing financial difficulties or if you have any questions about your school account.

I understand that the transition to home learning may be an anxious time for some and we are doing our utmost to ensure it runs as smooth as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr Cooper if you have any questions about our online educational programme in Term 2.

Sincerely

Andrew Taylor
Principal

"Excellentia Academica Persequenda"

