



# The Kilmore International School

11 July 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

**RE: Term 3 Update**

As we prepare for the commencement of Term 3, whether it be onsite for our Years 11 and 12 students on 14 July, or the high possibility of remote learning for Years 3 to 10 from 20 July, I wish to provide you with the latest information and procedures the school has put in place to lessen the risk of infection for our community:

- Federal and Victorian government health officials have recommended, but did not mandate, the use of face masks to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Face masks have been recommended for use on public transport and for times when physical distancing is difficult to maintain.

At a news conference yesterday, Professor Sutton was asked if face masks should be worn at schools. He replied that this was not feasible for young children and impractical for teachers in class. At the same time, he said, "I think everyone in schools should feel free to bring a mask if they feel comfortable with it – teachers in the common room, or individual students if they so choose." We currently have a supply of 1,000 disposable (4-hour use) face masks. These are available for staff and students, though the Department of Health and Human Services notes Professor Sutton's recommendation that this requirement does not include children (people aged under 18 years). Boxes of masks have been delivered to the IB Centre, Reception and Health Centre.

- To support the health and wellbeing of all students and staff, we will continue an enhanced cleaning routine of fixtures and fittings, and encouragement of frequent handwashing. Hand sanitiser has been restocked.
- Students are now required to have their temperature checked upon arrival at school. As in Term 2, temperature checking stations will be located in the IB Centre (as well as Reception / Health Centre). A temperature reading of 37.5C or over will require referral to the Health Centre and for the student to be collected by their family or carer. Teachers' temperature will also be checked.
- Ms Megan Logan will commence on Monday as Student Counsellor. Located in the Student Wellbeing Office, next to the Library, Megan will be available to students, in person and online.
- Classrooms will be configured to promote ventilation (no closed doors; open windows). In addition, Year level assemblies will be held outside, not indoors. Students are required to wear their Winter uniform.
- Staff will not gather in large groups. Instead, we will utilise virtual meeting technologies.
- Loan laptops are being prepared for students' home use should remote learning become a reality.
- Upcoming parent information evenings will be conducted online, via Zoom.

*"Excellentia Academica Persequenda"*

For Years 11 and 12 students, it is important that they continue to maintain physical distancing and hygiene guidelines when they return to school. This includes:

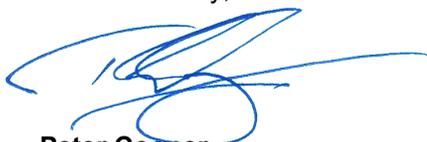
- Minimising unnecessary physical contact.
- Covering their mouth or nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze (place tissue in the bin). If no tissue is available, cough into their sleeve or elbow, not their hands.
- Wash their hands regularly with soap and water and dry thoroughly.
- Use hand sanitiser that has been placed in classrooms and in corridors.

If your child is feeling unwell and displaying symptoms, such as fever, coughing, sore throat, fatigue, or shortness of breath, then they must not attend school. They must remain home, and medical advice sought. If they become unwell at school, they will be assisted to the Health Centre and parents/carers contacted and arrangements made for them to return home.

While we have all become very familiar with the recommended physical distancing and hygiene routines, I would be grateful if families could discuss these matters, again, with your child before their return.

I truly wish you all every good health. Schools are just not the same without the students and I hope our combined wisdom and care will see us safely through this challenging period.

Yours sincerely,



**Peter Cooper**  
Principal