

Dear parents/carers

On Sunday afternoon the Victorian Government announced additional steps to combat the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), including bringing forward the school holidays in Victoria to commence from Tuesday 24 March.

During the week starting 23<sup>rd</sup> March all staff will plan and prepare for the likely transition to flexible and remote learning.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is without precedent in living memory, and it is taking us into the most challenging of times – as individuals, in our communities and as a society.

Below sets out the arrangements from the Department for the rest of this week and looks ahead to the first week of Term 2.

### Week 24<sup>th</sup> March to 27<sup>th</sup> March

1. Children of essential service workers will be able to attend a care and supervision program at the school for the week.
2. If essential service workers require holiday program places for their children over the Term 1 holidays due to the State of Emergency please contact the school during the week.

**Start Term 2: Staff return:** Tuesday 14 April, pupil free day; **Students return:** Wednesday 15 April

- The Victorian Chief Health Officer (CHO) will advise on whether the transition to flexible and remote learning and support should commence on the first student day of Term 2 (Wednesday 15 April) closer to that date.
- In the event that we proceed with the transition to flexible and remote learning and support staff will be on site.

### Learning from home

In the advent that Casterton Secondary College may be closed, teachers are preparing work for their classes.

- Year 11 and 12 students will continue with learning linked to their respective Study Designs which could include video conferencing for Year 12 students via the Department's preferred tool Webex.
- Year 7-10 student learning will follow course outlines that reflect the Victorian Curriculum 7-10.
  - There will be a combination of new learning, revision and assessment tasks which will be delivered through XUNO or Microsoft Teams.
  - All learning and assessment tasks will reflect the learning points of students.
  - Where applicable, teachers will provide links to video clips etc.
  - Some teachers will record lessons and upload the video on XUNO or through Microsoft Teams
  - All worksheets, instructions and tasks will be Word documents and uploaded to teacher's classes via XUNO and Microsoft Teams.
  - Students will need to complete the work by the due date and return through XUNO or Microsoft Teams.
  - Students will need to be available at times decided by the teacher.
  - Teachers will contact students regularly to check progress, provide feedback etc.

The school is currently organising laptops for students who don't have access to a computer, which will be ready for collection by the end of the week.

# Casterton

## Secondary College

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For students without internet access they will be provided with a USB, to be collected in the first week of Term 2 should we transition to flexible and remote learning.

All communication with students will be via XUNO and/or Microsoft Teams. Communication with parents will be through XUNO during the holidays and XUNO/phone during Term 2.

### **Finally**

There are a number of parents/carers who have not signed up to XUNO (it's free). I ask that you do so to ensure you have an open line of communication with the school, especially if it is closed.

Student health and wellbeing is very important to staff of CSC and as such we ask students to call the school for the remainder of the term if they are feeling anxious or want to talk to a staff member.

As updates come to hand I will continue to keep you informed via XUNO.

On behalf of staff I thank students, parents/carers for their support during these challenging times.

Please contact the school if you have any questions.

Kind regards



Meridith Walker  
Principal  
23/03/2020