



COVID-19 ~ Returning to School Questions and Answers



Question:	Answer:
Is it safe for my child to be at school?	Yes. Victoria's return to on-site school attendance is based on the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer.
What if I choose to keep my child home after the students are expected to return to school? **Tuesday 26 th May for F-Year 2 **Tuesday 9 th June for Years 3-6	If you choose to keep your child home you will not receive learning tasks from the teacher/school UNLESS it is for medical reasons that your child is unable to return and you have a medical certificate.
Can I send my child to school if they have a runny nose and say they feel unwell?	No. We ask that all staff and students stay at home if they have a cold, a runny nose or a sore throat.
How do I contact my child's teacher if I am unable to go into the classroom to speak with them?	Phone or email the school and Admin staff will forward a message to the teacher and they will contact you. You can also continue to use ClassDojo to communicate with your child's teacher directly.
Will my child be supervised when they arrive between 8:50am and 9am?	Yes. Children arriving from 8:50am will be supervised by yard duty teachers. All classroom teachers will meet and collect their students from their normal line up areas at 9am. All teachers will also be near the designated entry gates from 8:50am to guide students to their line up areas.
Why aren't parents allowed onsite to drop their children off and wait in the school yard to pick them up?	On advice from the Department's operating guidelines for return to onsite learning, visitors to school grounds should be limited to those delivering or supporting essential school services and operations (e.g. student health and wellbeing services, specialist curriculum programs, maintenance workers).
It's my child's birthday. Am I able to send cakes or ice creams into school for them to share with the class?	Unfortunately no. At this point in time students are not permitted to share food.
What will the students be allowed to play at recess and lunch time?	Students will be allowed to use fixed play equipment designated for each year level. Play equipment will be cleaned by our cleaners after each play time. There will be chalk for students to draw, skipping ropes, downballs and other equipment to use. Students will clean their hands before and after all play times.

How do I pick up my child if they are unwell?	If you are required to pick your child up because they are unwell, please ring the school when you have arrived and we will bring your child out to you outside the school gate. Parents will not be permitted to walk through the school.
What if my child has an appointment during the day or they have to leave early?	If you are required to pick your child up for any reason, please ring the school when you have arrived and we will bring your child out to you outside the school gate. Parents will not be permitted to walk through the school.
Can my child drink out of the bubble taps?	No. All students are required to bring a drink bottle filled from home. Drink bottles can be filled throughout the day from the water stations that will be turned on.
What if my child forgets their water bottle?	The school will have bottles of water. The children will be given a bottle of water if required and their name will be written on it.
My child is worried about coming back to school. How can the school support them?	The school has many different areas of support available. Please contact your child's teachers via ClassDojo and let them know what you are concerned about. Students will be supported by their classroom teacher, Defence School Mentors and other school based staff. We are also able to access support from the Department's Student Support Services if required.
What if my child won't walk into school without me?	There will be many familiar and smiling faces ready to greet your child each morning at their designated gates. Please talk to them about what they need to do each morning prior to school starting. If your child won't get out of the car, please contact the school and a staff member will come to you to help.
Can I drop my child off at school before 8:50am?	No. Children ARE NOT permitted onto the school grounds before 8:50am. These are changing times and this will be enforced. If your child needs to be dropped off before this time you will need to use the Out of Hours Care program at the Multifunction Centre across the road from the school.
If my child catches the Public Bus from Seymour to Puckapunyal, which bus can I catch?	The students who intend to catch the Seymour Public Bus <u>must</u> catch the bus that arrives at Puckapunyal at approximately 9:05am. There will not be any staff available this term to supervise any students who catch the earlier town bus that arrives at school 1 hour before school starts. At this point in time, a few minutes later than 9am is very acceptable.

	We will supervise all students who intend to catch the afternoon public bus back to Seymour after school.
Does my child need to practise social distancing?	No. Maintaining a physical distance of 1.5 metres will not always be practical in education settings. Physical distancing is most important between adults. Students will not come together with other classes for activities.
Will surface areas be cleaned regularly?	Yes. Schools have also received increased funding for the cleaners to clean high touch areas throughout the school day. This includes fixed play equipment.
Is there hand sanitiser available for my child to use?	Yes. All classrooms and other areas around the school have hand sanitiser for the students to use. Students will be reminded to sanitise their hands regularly throughout the day especially after they have completed a task.
Will there be lunch orders?	There will be no lunch orders for Term 2.
What if my child forgets their lunch?	The school will contact the family first. We will then provide your child with a basic sandwich if other arrangements cannot be made.
How can I collect my child at the end of the day?	Class teachers will bring students outside and past their designated gates at the end of each day. Please do not congregate near the gate. Please wait in your car or 50-100m away from the school at an agreed place for your child. Of course this is difficult for younger students and may not work perfectly. We just ask families to do the best they can. If you have to come close to the gate, please leave quickly once you have picked up your child.
My child goes to before school care, where do they go at 8:50am?	Before School Care staff will take your child to their line up area of a morning. Their class teacher will collect them at 9am and walk them into class with the other students.
What do I do if my child has woken up and is not well enough to attend school?	If your child will not be attending school please use our normal procedures to contact the school to report an absence - via school website or facebook.
My child is taking medication. How do I drop this off at school?	Firstly if your child is taking medication should they be at school? If your child requires medication please contact the school so that we can send you the distribution of medication form for you to fill in and sign. Please send this with the medication to school in your child's bag. We will collect it from there.

<p>Will my child be sharing resources with other students in the class?</p>	<p>Yes. There will be times when your child will be sharing equipment with other students in the class. Students will be washing and sanitising their hands regularly throughout the day.</p>
<p>Can I volunteer to help with reading or any other way in the school?</p>	<p>Unfortunately not at the moment. Until further advice, parents will not be permitted to be onsite. Again on advice from the Department's operating guidelines for return to onsite learning, visitors to school grounds should be limited to those delivering or supporting essential school services and operations (e.g. student health and wellbeing services, specialist curriculum programs, maintenance workers).</p>
<p>What will my child's first week be like?</p>	<p>We certainly understand that many children have been absent from school for 9-11 weeks by the time their classrooms resume. Many of those children were new at the beginning of the year too. We will be treating our first week back more like the first week of the year. Teachers will be working really hard re-establishing relationships in the classroom. We will redevelop routines, class culture, re-introducing students with each other and staff. Lots of games with some fun of course but also with the intension of re-introducing the important parts of the curriculum.</p>
<p>Will children bring home reader books when they come back to school?</p>	<p>Yes and no. Eventually, we will get students to bring home levelled readers. But not yet. For now, we recommend that families utilise WUSHKA online reading boxes for daily reading practice.</p>
<p>Will the students have Art, Library and Indonesian classes when they return?</p>	<p>Yes they will. The children will have all specialist classes but they will take place in their classrooms. We won't be using large shared spaces like the Art Room and Library for the remainder of the term.</p>
<p>How do we purchase school uniforms if parents cannot enter the school grounds?</p>	<p>Families can ring the school office to organise uniforms to be sent home and payment can be completed online. At the moment, long sleeve school shirts are on back order. We will let families know when they are available.</p>