

Wednesday 8th April 2020

Parents/Guardians,

TRANSITION TO FLEXIBLE AND REMOTE LEARNING

To increase physical distancing across the population and slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), children in Victorian government schools should move to remote and flexible learning and care at the commencement of Term 2.

This means that from the start of term two (Wednesday 15th April) all students who can learn from home must learn at home.

ALL STUDENTS WILL BE LEARNING FROM HOME, EXCEPT FOR STUDENTS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES

- 1. Children on days when they are not able to be supervised at home and no other arrangements can be made. This will be available for children of parents who cannot work from home, and vulnerable children, including:*
 - children in out-of-home care*
 - children deemed by Child Protection and/or Family Services to be at risk of harm*
 - children identified by the school as vulnerable (including via referral from a family violence agency, homelessness or youth justice service or mental health or other health service and children with a disability).*
- 2. For learning requirements that cannot be conducted via distance, and considering operational requirements set out below, small groups of VCE and VCAL students are permitted to attend school, with appropriate physical distancing and hygiene measures in place.*

ON-SITE PROVISION

- 1. On-site provision will be available at all government schools, but only for students in the categories listed above, for the purpose of providing continuity of teaching, learning and support.*
- 2. When on-site learning is provided, hand sanitiser will be available at the entry points to classrooms and education will be provided on hand hygiene. Physical distancing will be implemented in classrooms to the extent feasible and unwell students will be excluded from attending.*
- 3. The learning program delivered on-site will be the same as the learning program delivered to students undertaking remote learning. Students learning on-site will be supervised by an on-site teacher but follow the teaching and learning program provided by their classroom teacher.*

HOW DO I LET THE SCHOOL KNOW IF MY CHILD NEEDS TO ATTEND SCHOOL?

- Please phone the school 5595 1202 (8:30am – 4:30pm) on Tuesday 14th April to advise us which day/s your child needs to attend school between 15th to 17th April.*
- For the remainder of Term 2, please phone the school on the Friday prior to the upcoming week to advise us.*

- This will allow us to develop a weekly staff roster for student supervision (if required).
- In the event of an emergency date/change outside office hours please email the school cobden.ts@education.vic.gov.au

WHAT WILL REMOTE LEARNING LOOK LIKE FOR MY CHILD?

- All subjects at all year levels will continue to follow the normal CTS Term 2 timetable. Teachers will modify some learning activities in some subjects to better suit remote learning.
- Students should log in to Compass at 9:00am each day from Wednesday 15th April to check their timetable for the day.
- Teachers will post a lesson plan on Compass which will usually link to a Google Classroom for that subject which will contain more detailed information and links.
- Teachers will ask their students to check-in via the Google Classroom 'stream' and then mark the roll in Compass.
- Some teachers may incorporate a video conference roll call and lesson introduction via WebEx Meetings. Teachers will provide a link and instructions in their Compass lesson plan or Google Classroom if/when required.
- Most teachers will also be working remotely and can be contacted during normal school hours via Compass email.

WHAT IF MY CHILD DOESN'T HAVE A COMPUTER OR OUR INTERNET IS REALLY BAD?

- At the end of term one I surveyed students and parents about home access to WIFI, mobile data and a computer. Based on this information, we have begun to prepare school owned laptops that will be provided to students from Monday 20th April. I will communicate directly to these families about how/when they can collect the computer.
- Our office staff will phone all families that did not respond to the survey on Tuesday 14th April to ensure all students have access to a computer and/or internet.
- The Department has asked me to identify how many families do not have internet access. They are examining ways to provide internet access for students who may not be able to connect at home. I will be in direct contact with families regarding this issue.
- CTS teachers will also be able to provide hard copies of learning resources in the event of an internet outage or in cases where it is not possible for students to have any digital access.
- For students without digital access, hard copy assignments will be available for collection from the school admin at 8:45am on Thursday 16th April.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS PROBLEMS WITH THEIR COMPASS OR GOOGLE CLASSROOM LOGIN?

The CTS website <https://www.cobtech.vic.edu.au/> has links to [Compass login](#) and [GAPE login](#) pages.

Username and Passwords

Each of the online platforms requires a different username and password. In the last week of term one we worked with students to make sure that they have access to all of the resources that they may access online, resetting passwords as needed. Students' classroom teachers outlined to students the range of resources as well as stepping them through the process of logging in and continuing work. In the event that students need passwords reset, we advise them to make contact with the following staff:

Platform	Contact	Email
GAFE Password: Google Apps and Google Classroom	Reinier Bouman	reinier.bouman@education.vic.gov.au
	Rohan Keert	rohan.keert@education.vic.gov.au
Maths Pathway	Michael Smart	michael.smart@education.vic.gov.au
EdRolo	Cass Crévola	cassandra.crevola@education.vic.gov.au
Compass password	Reinier Bouman	reinier.bouman@education.vic.gov.au

WHAT ABOUT VCE, VET AND VCAL?

- Over the coming weeks, we expect greater clarity from the Education Department about the nature of and timelines for VCE assessment. We will communicate this information as soon as it comes to hand.
- Next week I have a video conference meeting with all schools in the Corangamite Trade Training Cluster (CTTC) and TAFE which will outline SWTAFE campus VET web-based delivery up until Mid-May and how this will impact VET subjects that run in our cluster. We will communicate this information as soon as it comes to hand.

Naturally, there are many issues and solutions that we will only be able to broach as time goes on - we appreciate your patience as we negotiate entirely new territory.

Kind Regards,

Rohan Keert | **Principal**

Cass Crévola | **Assistant Principal**