



Principal: Kai Pukarinen  
Postal: PO Box 7052, Karingal Centre VIC 3199  
Tel: 9788 2222  
Email: naranga.ss@education.vic.gov.au  
ABN 26 329 168 465

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Dear parents, carers, students and staff,

Earlier today, the Victorian Government announced that, on the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, regional and rural Victoria will move to Stage 3 restrictions and metropolitan Melbourne will move to Stage 4 restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

These requirements apply to **all** schools across the government, Catholic and independent sectors and across all metropolitan Melbourne and rural and regional Victoria.

The changes to schools' operations will come into effect from Wednesday 5 August, following a student free day on Tuesday 4 August, and are likely to apply until the end of Term 3.

As outlined in the Chief Health Officer's advice on Friday, schools remain safe places for staff and students – but these steps are critical measures to reduce the movement of students and families across the state.

There are implications for our school, and for families in our school community. A summary of what the changes mean for schools is below.

#### **SPECIALIST SCHOOLS**

- On-site provision in specialist schools will **only** be available to children whose parents are permitted workers, and vulnerable children.

#### **TIMELINE**

- Monday 3 August will be a 'normal' day of school under current arrangements, with students attending on site learning asked to take all their necessary learning materials home.
- Tuesday 4 August will be a student-free day across Victoria to enable teachers, especially in rural and regional Victoria, to prepare for flexible and remote learning.
- Wednesday 5 August will be the first day of new arrangements for schools across Victoria

#### **STAFFING**

- Schools will ensure sufficient staff are available for necessary on site supervision.
- Staff not required for on-site supervision will work from home.

I will provide an update soon about arrangements for remote and flexible learning at our school.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Kai Pukarinen  
Principal