

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020

Dear Damascus staff and families,

The Premier of Victoria, Daniel Andrews has today declared that regional Victoria will return to stage 3 restrictions to combat the COVID-19. This means that the Damascus College community will return to remote learning from Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August for a six week period.

Students and staff are to attend school as normal, tomorrow Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, continuing our responsible wearing of masks.

Tomorrow for Period 6, students will go to their TA and will submit their subject selections online. This was planned to occur on Tuesday. Students will need to bring their careers planning sheet to school tomorrow. If students are not able to complete aspects of their selections tomorrow, opportunities to revisit them will be made available at a later date.

Following subject selection, students will be required to clear their lockers tomorrow afternoon and take their learning equipment home at the end of the day. If your young person is concerned about the amount of equipment they need to take home, encourage them to talk with their TA about prioritising their learning equipment, as parents are still restricted onsite.

If a student is having any concern with their device currently, please make sure they hand it up to the IT Helpdesk tomorrow to make sure that their key learning tool is working optimally for remote learning from Wednesday. If the device needs to be retained, the Helpdesk will liaise with the family regarding a timely return.

If students are unwell tomorrow or if there are young people at home as a result of COVID-19 testing, families will be notified of equipment collection processes.

Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August will be a non-teaching day with school staff preparing to return to remote learning. Students are to remain home on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August.

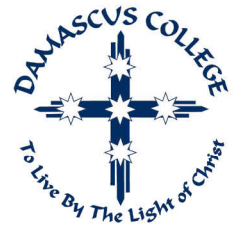
On Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> Damascus College will recommence remote learning.

The College will provide a communication on Tuesday regarding an updated Damascus College Remote Learning Manual and protocols.

The College will also continue to provide onsite care for the students of essential workers and vulnerable students from Wednesday. The Governments announcements tomorrow about how people will work will provide clarity for those seeking onsite supervision. We will communicate with families tomorrow regarding onsite supervision needs.

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The safety of the Damascus community is the key priority of this period of time. It sits alongside our commitment to continuing our provision of quality education and maintaining a connected and supported community. In ensuring we are able to provide the support families need, please contact [fees@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:fees@damascus.vic.edu.au) if your family is experiencing financial duress. Young people's education must not be a victim of this global pandemic, and we are here to help.

It is distressing that Victorians are collectively at risk and that such extreme measures are required. We have proved that we can work as a community to stay strong through adversity, and we will embrace this challenge with the same tenacity.

Please watch out for communication over the coming days as more details are available.

God bless

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Byrne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Matthew Byrne  
Principal

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