



# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

*Every student matters.... Every staff member cares... Every opportunity taken*  
**12<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

## **Return of all students Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – WELCOME BACK**

I had hoped that life would return to normal as we welcome all students back to the College, but I realise that there may be changes and challenges as we adapt to the changing COVID-19 circumstances.

## **New Staff**

We would like to welcome Suzanne Couchman. Suzanne will be undertaking the Year 7 & 8 Year Level position alongside Lauren Parker. Suzanne will be teaching across the Humanities, English and Maths learning areas.

## **Our new building – we've moved in!**



We have now relocated the Administration, Year 12 room and Canteen into the new building. The Food Technology area will relocate over the coming weeks. We ask that you please note the changes as a result of the new building.

Entry to the school is from Warkil Street. **Please make an appointment to visit the office & where possible, please phone instead of visiting.**

Fences have been erected to assist us meet our Child Safety obligations. These gates will be locked at 9.20am. Student entry to the school after this time must be via the front reception area.

**The canteen is now open.** Please note that lunch passes are issued for students to go home for lunch. They will need to leave via the student reception area located in the Admin building. To assist in the management of our Child Safety obligations and to minimise contact in line with COVID-19 hygiene measures, we ask that parents/carers do not have a student's lunch delivered to school.

## **Subject selection for 2021**

Please note the following arrangements are subject to change due to the current pandemic. We will keep you informed of any changes as soon as we can.

To enable us to undertake our subject counselling process with individual students and parents we will not be running the normal timetable program for year levels as indicated on the days below. We ask that students in those year levels remain home on those days where possible.

<b>Year 8 students</b>	<b>remain home Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August</b>
<b>Year 11 students</b>	<b>remain home Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August</b>
<b>Years 9 &amp; 10 students</b>	<b>remain home Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August</b>

Information relating to counselling times will be provided shortly.

# School Operations during the pandemic

Please note that the following guidelines are based upon DET and the Victorian Health Officers advice and are subject to change based upon this advice. We thank you for assisting us to implement these guidelines for the wellbeing and safety of our school and wider community.

## If your child is sick or displays symptoms during the day

If your child is displaying any of the following symptoms or is feeling unwell, *they must not attend school*. If students display these symptoms throughout the day, you will be contacted & asked to collect your child.

- Fever
- Chills or sweats
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Runny nose
- Loss of sense of smell
- Stuffy nose
- Headache
- Nausea
- Diarrhoea

## NSW residents

ALL STUDENTS who travel on a Baldwin's Bus will be required to hold a Current and Valid Permit to cross the Border and have this on them each AM and PM Service. This includes NSW Children that attend the NSW School of Barooga as our buses in the afternoon pick up children from Barooga school then travel across the border to collect other students from the Cobram Schools, therefore EVERY student travelling on a bus will require a permit. There may be a delay in the afternoon services depending on how long the wait is at the Border Checkpoint. Students will be asked as they board the buses if they have a permit to cross the border. Baldwin's Buses will continue Covid19 cleaning and disinfecting practices, and to have hand sanitizer on the buses.

Permit link:

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-covid-19-nsw-border-entry-permit>

## Buses

All buses will have allocated seating for students. Where possible siblings will be seated together.

Students will be informed that they are not to change seats. Drivers will take zero tolerance with students that disobey this instruction.

No food is allowed to be eaten on the bus.

Drivers will disinfect students' hands when they board and depart the bus.

The buses will be disinfected at the end of each school run.

## Designated classes & recess/lunch areas for students

To minimise movement of students & sharing of spaces, we have designated classrooms and active and passive areas for year levels during break times.

	Passive	Active
<b>7 - 8 AREA 1</b>	Year 7&8 Centre	Courts adjacent to basketball courts & oval Oval (Cricket nets area)
<b>9 - 10 AREA 2</b>	Undercover area outside canteen	Basketball court near ACE wall Oval (Next to O2)
<b>11 - 12 AREA 3</b>	Undercover area outside of old foods room	Basketball court near library/O1 Around Year 10 -11 locker bay

## **Cleaning**

We will increase the frequency of regular cleaning (beyond what we normally do), including sanitising high-touch areas and shared areas throughout the day.

## **Hygiene**

- All staff and students will undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet. This will be directed or supervised by staff where required.
- We will be practising hand hygiene immediately before and after use of shared equipment
- Where soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitiser will be made available.
- Students must bring their own water bottles to school for use (and refilling). It is recommended that students do not drink directly from drinking fountains at this time.
- Staff and students are reminded to clean their mobile phones regularly. The Cobram Secondary College Mobile Phone Policy remains in place so students will not be handling their mobile phones during the school day.
- Sharing of food is not permitted.

## **Computers are to be brought to school each day.**

Additional devices will NOT be on short term loan due to COVID restrictions.

## **Work Placement/VET & VCE study periods**

If a student is not able to attend Work Placement or their VET studies due to the pandemic restrictions they are to remain at home under the supervision of their parent/carer. Where it is necessary for a student to attend school on this day or during their home approved study period they must contact the appropriate Year Level Leader to make arrangements for them to be at school.