



Bethal Primary School No. 5186

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Dear parents/carers

The Victorian Government has announced new arrangements for schools in Victoria from and including Wednesday 28 July 2021.

Based on advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, schools in Victoria will return to face-to-face learning and teaching for all students from and including Wednesday 28 July 2021.

This means all students are expected to attend our school on-site from Wednesday 28 July 2021.

To keep our school safe and reduce the impact of any future outbreaks, we have introduced some important operational changes. This includes:

- **Ensuring physical distancing**
- **Limiting access to the school grounds to staff only and those providing essential services**
- **Parents must drop children off at the school gates – if parents need to speak to a staff member, they should call the school at a suitable time**
- **Sending canteen lunch orders with the children**

Face masks are mandatory in schools:

There has been no change to the face mask advice, which will continue to apply to all school settings, including any Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) programs:

- Secondary school students aged 12 or older must wear a face mask at all times indoors and outdoors when at school, including when attending an OSHC program, unless a lawful exception applies.
- Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school are not required to wear face masks when at school, or when attending an OSHC program.
- Face masks are mandatory for all school students aged 12 or older on public transport and when in taxis or ride-share vehicles. This includes travelling to and from school on public transport or in a vehicle with others not from your household.

Thank you for your continued support during this time. As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with any feedback or queries.

Teresa DeMercurio

Principal