



# Marian College

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*A Community growing in Faith and Love • Serving Others • Striving to Achieve • Thinking for the Future*

23 March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Once again thank you for your patience throughout this period of time. I will never understate the commitment that you have to support the community as well as your own families under these most trying and anxious of days. I also further commit to be understanding of any decision that you may need to make in order to support and care for your families.

As you are aware, the College made the decision last Friday to call Wednesday 25 March to Friday 27 March as professional learning days with no student attendance and provision for a trial of remote/online learning. We have had communication from the Victorian Government confirming that the school holidays will be brought forward to Tuesday 24 March for students and the rest of the week is classified as Professional Learning Days. Consequently, as students start their holidays earlier, staff will be further developing our Seqta programs and our remote/online learning platforms over the course of this week. The program is now:

Date	Overview	Other key information
Monday 23 March	<b>All classes will operate on site as normal</b>	College to be notified of any student absence as per normal procedures.
Tuesday 24 March to Friday 27 March	<b>Staff preparing for remote learning and updating Seqta course</b> No classes operating on site, students to remain at home There will be no timetabled remote learning during this time	

Students should use the holidays to ensure that they have an understanding of our Seqta, JacPlus and Google platforms and how to apply them in a remote learning setting. It is not unusual for students to receive holiday homework so your daughters are to ensure that they refer to their Seqta courses. As I reminded families last week, please be aware that the load on digital systems will be tested in a way we have not experienced previously. Some patience with the technology will be required.

More information regarding the scheduling of SACs, especially for Unit 3 and 4 students, will be forthcoming, once we are clearer about what this means for students completing VCE. Any SACs scheduled from 24 March have been postponed, until further notice. I once again reassure our Year 11 and 12 VCE parents and students that our VCE Coordinator is in regular contact with the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA) regarding SACs, examinations and course delivery

requirements. As stated on the VCAA website: *"The VCE allows for considerable flexibility in delivery of learning and the administration of school-based assessments and the VCAA is assisting schools to identify suitable arrangements for their students' learning and assessment on a case-by-case basis. The VCAA aims to ensure that no student is disadvantaged and will support schools to give each student opportunity to complete the requirements of their VCE studies."*

The School Office will be open at least until Friday 27 March. Teachers will be working on site on Tuesday and Wednesday, and may choose to work from home on Thursday and Friday. Please note that the scheduled term break will remain a term break for staff and students, with **Term 2 commencing now on Wednesday 15 April**. I will communicate with parents, students and staff in the second week of the term break to confirm arrangements for the commencement of the term.


As a school we are considering the implications for all members of the Community of the Government decision in bringing the holidays forward. You would be aware that the key elements of school life for all, i.e. faith, wellbeing, learning, community, finance and leadership, would need to be catered for. We will ensure that our channels of communication and individual connection will be supported and the welfare needs of the individuals in our community are met.

If the decision is made subsequently for school to resume for remote/online learning core personnel will be available to ensure that the College could continue to operate. Our school community can be confident that there will be a team of staff working together ensuring communication channels are open, welfare programs are supported and the learning program provides a formative platform for student growth. Essential core services will remain in place for the community to access and processes will be documented and published within our core networks.

I acknowledge, once again, the tireless work of all the staff and their sensitivity to the needs of all the students and families whilst ensuring the learning program continues. The students, too, are to be commended for the application to their tasks even in these uncertain times. Finally, to all Parents and Guardians, I am grateful for your support and patience as we maneuver through all the issues that this situation has created. I will keep you abreast of any changes as circumstances unfold and once we receive updated advice from the CECV. As you would be aware, we are making arrangements on the most current information we have. Once we receive updates, these arrangements may change. Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

We aim to persevere and support all with strength and gentleness.

Yours sincerely



Raymond Pisani  
Principal