

# TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO.3067



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**SCHOOL VALUES - RESPECT, HONESTY & INCLUSION**

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all your support during these past few weeks of remote and flexible learning.

Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government has advised that schools can begin a phased return to on-site schooling.

In the **first stage**, students in Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2, senior secondary (Year 11 and 12 VCAL and VCE) students and all students in specialist schools will return to school from Tuesday 26 May.

To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, Monday 25 May will be a pupil-free day (no school / online learning or onsite supervision on this day). In the **second stage** of our return to on-site schooling, all other year levels will return to school from Tuesday 9 June.

For those students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children, the existing model of on-site schooling will remain in place during the two-week period from Tuesday 26 May to Tuesday 9 June. The current process that we are using to enable parents and carers to indicate the days or part-days for which on-site schooling is required will continue for this two-week period.

All other students in these grades and year levels will continue learning from home until Tuesday 9 June.

Once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children home after their year level has returned to on-site schooling, we can no longer support their learning from home.

This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan.

This same approach is being taken by all government schools in Victoria.

To support the health and wellbeing of all our students and staff, our school will continue an enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent hand washing.

If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice.

While the Chief Health Officer has advised that students will not be required to maintain physical distancing at school, there will be a number of important changes to our school operations, consistent with health advice to all schools that is available.

This will apply until further notice. I will provide more detail about our local school context as soon as possible, but it is important to note that changes will include:

- adjusted arrangements for drop off and pick up;
- restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students;
- the way we conduct parent-teacher meetings and interviews

A summary of this is below:

### **Car Travellers / Walking Students**

- To minimise congestion, families whose surnames begin with the letters A-L should drop off and collect their children from the Victoria Street car park at the front of the school.
- Families whose surnames begin with the letters M-Z should drop off and collect their children from the back of the oval, on North Street.
- Students who walk home from school can enter and exit the school as they usually would.
- Staff will be supervising the front and back of the school during arrival and pick up times.

### **Arrival – from 8.45am**

- Students should arrive at school from 8.45am and move immediately into their classroom
- Parents are to remain in their cars or at the school gate
- David, Karen and Education Support staff will be in the yard to greet students and direct them to their classrooms
- Classroom teachers will be in their classrooms awaiting students

### **Pick up**

- Early bus travellers will leave at 3.15pm
- Students will be dismissed a class at a time from 3.20pm
- Parents are to remain near their cars (so they are visible to staff) or at the school gate

### **Break Times**

- Break times will remain the same.
- From week 9 until the end of Term 2, F-2 students will play at the front of the school and 3-6 students at the back to minimise contact between year levels
- At this stage, playgrounds will remain out of bounds and students will be unable to use any sports equipment from school or home

### **Hygiene**

- Staff and students will be required to wash their hands when entering or exiting classrooms/school grounds

### **On-Site Access**

- Family members should not enter the school grounds – as per DET guidelines

### **Communication**

- Classroom teachers can be contacted through Class Dojo and are more than happy to call parents to discuss any matters
- Please ring the school or send an email if you need to make contact with the school

**Assembly**

- Will continue on Webex for the remainder of Term 2, please use David's meeting ID 576 739 057
- Each class will use Webex to attend from their classroom
- Student of the Week announcements will not commence until Term 3

We understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken on the basis of the best health advice available to our state.

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the Department's website, which will continue to be updated:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time. We look forward to welcoming our students back to the classroom.

Yours sincerely,

David Brodie  
PRINCIPAL