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Our Lady of Good Counsel Primary School

Return to School Plan 2020

Dear Parents,

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

Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government and the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) have advised that schools can begin a phased return to onsite schooling. At OLGC we are excited to have our students and staff back onsite as we begin to reconnect with the community. While restrictions are being lifted, we still need to remain vigilant with hygiene and social distancing practices. To support the health and wellbeing of all students and staff, our school will continue an enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent handwashing.

The return to school will take place in two stages. This will give the Victorian Chief Health Officer and Government time to monitor and evaluate the effects that the staged return to school has on the increased movement of people and virus transmission within the community.

Stage 1: 25 May – 5 June

- * OLGC will begin a staged return from *Monday 25 May 2020*, starting with a *pupil-free day*. This will enable staff to plan for a successful transition back to school.
- * Students in **Prep – Year 2** will return to on-site schooling on **Tuesday 26 May**. The existing remote learning program will not continue for these year levels.
- * Students in Year 3 – Year 6 must continue to learn from home and will continue to be supported by their teacher to learn remotely. Students who are currently attending school will continue to be supported through the supervised program.
- * Please contact the Principal if your child is unable to return to school as a result of any health or medical reasons.

Stage 2: from 9 June

- * Students in **Year 3 – Year 6** will return to on-site schooling on **Tuesday 9 June**. OLGC will no longer offer a remote learning program. All students are expected to return to on-site schooling.
- * Please contact the Principal if your child is unable to return to school as a result of any health or medical reasons.

Procedures

- * **Drop off and pick up procedures:** Parents are not to enter the school past the front office or through the back doors, unless absolutely necessary. To avoid congestion we ask parents to observe physical distancing measures by not congregating in areas inside or around the school.
 - **Morning** - during **Stage 1**, the school gates and office will remain locked until 8.40am. Parents are asked to remain in their cars or social distance along the path. A staff member will unlock the gates and only students will enter, use hand sanitiser and proceed to their classroom. The gates will be locked again at 9am. Any late arrivals must enter via the school office.
 - **Afternoon** - during **Stage 1**, school will **finish at 2.30pm** from 26 May - 5 June. This is to allow for students to transition back slowly and for staff to clean in preparation for the following day. The school gates will be unlocked at 2.30pm and parents will be permitted to wait on the playground with social distancing. Once a student is collected, we ask for families to leave the school grounds immediately.

The morning and afternoon procedures will be monitored and revised for stage 2 from 9 June.

- * **Social distancing measures for adults:** Parents who do need to enter the school are asked to do so via the school office. Please avoid prolonged interactions with our staff or other adults in the school, keeping 1.5 metres away from the nearest person
- * **Social distancing measures for children:** Physical distancing is not considered necessary between students in the school setting.
- * **Hand hygiene:** Diligent hand hygiene will be part of our daily routine. Students will use their personal hand sanitisers while in the classroom. Liquid hand sanitiser is available at multiple locations around the school. Students continue to be encouraged to wash their hands regularly.
- * **Surface disinfectant:** All hard surfaces, including tables, benches and door handles will be regularly disinfected.
- * **Outdoor school playgrounds:** The Adventure playground equipment will be reopened during supervised playtime. Students will be directed to practice hand hygiene before and after use. The playground will be closed before and after school.
- * **Drink fountains:** These will remain off limits until we are advised it is safe to use this equipment. Please make sure your child brings a drink bottle to school every day. There are sinks around the school where students can fill up their drink bottles if they need to.
- * **Illness:** Based on health advice we are unable to have your child onsite if they show any signs of infection.
 - Please notify the school of your child's absence through the skoolbag app.
 - If your child becomes unwell during the day, even with minor symptoms, they must go home and will remain in the sick bay away from other students until they are collected.
- * **Temperature Checks:** OLGC staff will **not perform daily temperature checks**. A student's temperature will only be taken if they become unwell at school. *Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)*

- * **Canteen:** The canteen will resume as normal with lunch orders being submitted through School Connect. Snacks may still be purchased over the counter with coins. At this stage there will be no parent helpers in the canteen. School staff will assist where needed.
- * **Library:** Students returning to onsite learning will be able to borrow library books. We ask that all library books borrowed in term one are returned by **Friday, 22 May**.
- * **School Tours:** No school tours will be conducted while we remain in the current situation. New and prospective parents are able to view our virtual tour video or book a chat with the Principal.
- * **Activities:** There will be no events or activities scheduled for the remainder of this term. There will be no weekly assembly, no parent helpers, no incursions or excursions, no sports events or masses.
- * **Extend - Before and After School Care:** The Extend before and after school care program will continue to be offered for families requiring supervision. The morning session commences at 7am and the afternoon session from 3.30pm each day. Bookings at [extend website](#).
- * **Devices:** Students who borrowed school devices will need to return these, cleaned and disinfected, as they return to school. Prep-2 students who borrowed devices and charges will be returned to the front office by **Friday 22 May** whereby the original form will be signed as confirmation. If there have been any issues with the device (poor battery life, keys not working etc.) please note this on the form.

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

It is a shared responsibility to ensure we keep all children and adults safe at OLGc.

We will continue to follow the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer to ensure our processes are always the most current.

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the CECV website, which will continue to be updated: www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents.

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

Kind regards



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