



July 15, 2020

Dear parents and carers of Year 7-10 students,

Greetings. I feel as though I am repeatedly thanking you all for your patience and understanding as we scurry to ensure that we are responding to each change as they unfold...but I really do appreciate your forbearance and trust!

With the recent announcement that Years 7-10 will be returning to remote learning for the coming five weeks (and possibly longer), please be advised of the following:

Assumption@Home Learning Recommences

From Monday morning, Year 7-10 courses will resume online, supported by WEBEX, SIMON, Google Classroom etc. Teachers have already begun the process of sending an introduction to their students (especially since for most students, these are new courses).

To allow our teachers to conduct their face-to-face and remote classes effectively, we have adjusted the timing of daily classes (poster with revised details attached). The Learning Schedule will now be:

Learning Mentor Group:	8.45am- 9.00am (WEBEX for all students, every day. Roll taken)
Period 1:	9.05am -10.05am
Period 2:	10.45am -11.45am
Period 3:	12.05pm -1.05pm
Period 4:	2.05pm - 3.05pm

- In response to feedback at the conclusion of the last round of remote learning, WEBEX sessions will occur in classes with greater frequency than last time. Teachers have been instructed to engage WEBEX with their classes AT LEAST every second class.
- NEW: When participating in WEBEX classes, students will be expected to have their cameras turned on (this is different to last time).
- Students who require resources to be sent home (eg. library resources or support for various practical classes etc), should use the [form](#) accessed via SIMON. Our drivers will again be on the road delivering material to students.

Roll marking and attendance

One of the things we missed last time around was the daily LM check-in. We've brought that back for the coming five weeks and each student will be expected to be online in their LM WEBEX from 8.45am. Daily notices will be read and the roll taken. Students must leave their cameras on.

If your son/daughter is unwell and won't be participating in their classes on a particular day (or for part of a day), you will need to notify the College of their absence from classes as normal (via phone, app or email).

Students with Additional Needs

We have now been given greater flexibility to bring students who require additional support into the College for between one and five days a week. Our teachers have created a list of students whom we believe could benefit from this additional support, and will be making contact about this in the coming days. We also encourage parents who are concerned about their child's progress to make contact through their LM. Whilst we may not be able to accommodate all wishes, we will do our best to provide additional support where it is possible.

Student Wellbeing

Our counsellors are once again available to support students and families with a range of options. Please call or email wellbeing@assumption.vic.edu.au to begin a process to support your child if you think they could do with a little extra attention at this time.

Screen Time

I think we all (adults and teens) learnt a fair bit about overdoing our Screen Time last time round! Part of the reasoning behind the adjustment of the timing of classes going forward is that we can provide an opportunity for students to get away from their screen/desk and get some exercise or some sunshine. Please do everything in your power to help encourage students to get away from their screens between classes (and for a portion of the time before dinner) and to take a proper break. Doing so will absolutely assist them in improving the level of their concentration when they return for their next class. One strategy could be remind them that if they were at school, they would be up out of their seat and changing buildings between their classes! If it comes to it, perhaps get them to put on their Assumption rain jacket and do a lap around the backyard or a walk up the street in between each lesson (even in the rain!)...it'll feel just like a real school day!

ICT Support

Once again, the ICT staff will be working to ensure your child has access to the resources they require for their classes. Those with poor internet at home are encouraged to register to send their child to school each day. Otherwise, ICT support can be sought via ict.support@assumption.vic.edu.au

If your child or a close contact tests positive to COVID-19

If your child, or a close contact tests positive, please notify the College as soon as possible (after hours, the phone will divert to the work phone of a senior staff member - please just leave a message). We have procedures to close the necessary parts of the College that need to be followed and others to assist DHHS in their contact tracing. The earlier we can be made aware, the better things will be for our entire community.

Parent Feedback

The constructive feedback offered by parents during our last experience of remote learning assisted greatly in creating improvements throughout the period of lock-down. We will use [the same feedback form](#) to collect your ideas around 'What's Working Well' and 'Even Better If...' with Assumption@Home for your child. Thanks in advance for taking the time to improve our program.

Blessings

The old saying 'count your blessings' has been verified by psychologists as a great way of improving our mental health. Taking a few moments each day to list and give thanks to God for 3 things that are joyfilled, enlivening or peace-generating is a good way to build one's sense of gratefulness and purpose. For me today, the three blessings that spring to mind are:



- That our Year 11s and 12s are in good spirits and appreciative of being back. They are a joy to be around.
- That the sun came out again this afternoon - an instant mood-booster
- That our staff have been so gracious at responding to these difficult times - they are simply good people, doing their best for our community through their faithfulness and valuing of our College.

I hope three things spring to mind as easily for you today. If you require more information than which has been provided above, please reach out to your Learning Mentor - they are well and truly back on deck and ready to work with you to help your child get the most out of their remote learning and whatever else 2020 might throw at us!

Peace & blessings,



Kate Fogarty
Principal

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