

Coronavirus Response

TORRENS VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL UPDATE 11



TORRENS VALLEY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

23 April 2020

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR TERM 2

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to the new term. I trust you had a pleasant and relaxing break and a blessed time over Easter. I look forward to sharing with you and your family in the term ahead.

As we continue in this unprecedented time of change in our nation as a result of COVID-19, please know that you and your family are uppermost in my heart and prayers.

Arrangements for Term 2

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have navigated the best ways to support your child's learning in this changing COVID-19 landscape.

As a School community, we have proactively responded to the information available to us from Government and health authorities, developing and implementing programs to support your child's continued education and care for the wellbeing of our community. The launch of the School's remote learning program, *School at Home*, was part of these initiatives and I acknowledge the exceptional work undertaken by our teaching team to develop and launch the program in record time.

With the current low rates of COVID-19 infections in South Australia, in recent days however, the landscape has changed quite markedly.

Advice from SA Health and Australia's expert health body, AHPPC clearly indicates that schools are low risk environments for COVID-19 and should remain open.

In response to this, the Chief Executive Officer for Government Schools in South Australia has announced today that departmental schools will reopen in the coming term and that they "will be encouraging students to return to their classroom for Term 2."

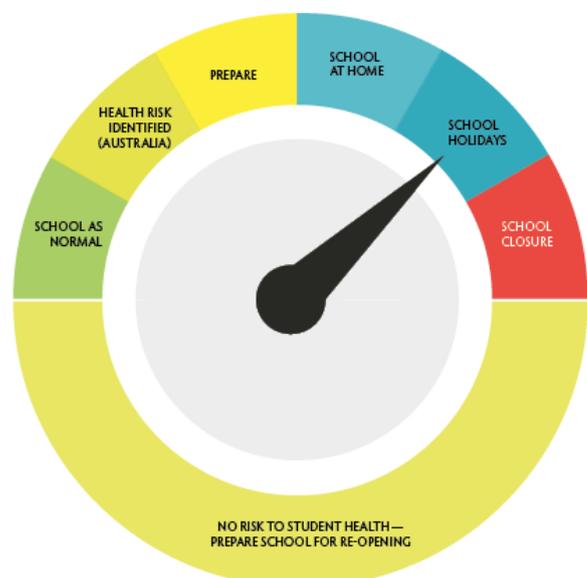
In line with these announcements, we would like to advise you that Torrens Valley Christian School will be open for students to attend classes on site as from the start of Term 2, Tuesday 28 April. Of course, we will continue to respect the preferences of parents and, if you don't feel comfortable sending your children to school for whatever reason, you may opt to continue accessing the TVCS remote learning program, School at Home from home.

As we move from students learning at home to more students learning in the classroom, there is likely to be a period of adjustment and we ask your grace as we navigate through these changes.

Initially, the school will provide continuous learning through the School at Home model with a progressive transition to face-to-face delivery.

Arrangements will be reviewed regularly in line with the advice of Government and health authorities and in line with changing needs.

To assist us in our planning, we would appreciate it if you could register with the school on the ['Register my child to work from home'](#) form if you are planning to have **your child work from home.**



The health and wellbeing of your family is my first priority and I wish to assure you that strong measures are in place to reduce the risk of transmission. The School will maintain increased cleaning schedules in all areas and implement sound health and hygiene practices.

Please note the following important arrangements for the coming term:

- Term 2 will commence for students on Tuesday 28th April 2020.
- Please register with the school on the '[Register my child to work from home](#)' form if you are planning to have **your child work from home**. In this instance, a Term 2 Learning Pack for students Reception – Year 6 will be available for collection from the School Hall on Monday 27 April between 9.00am and 4.00pm. Please feel free to come to the school at your convenience to access your child's pack, via the Hall car park side entrance.
- PLEASE NOTE: If your child will be attending school on site in a full-time capacity, there is no need for you to collect a Learning Pack. Students will need to ensure they bring their books and learning resources back to school.
- Secondary students and parents/caregivers will be emailed any specific instructions for *School at Home* by their class teacher.
- Parents are asked to advise the Front Office of any student absence **on or before 10.00am**. This will assist the School to keep accurate records of student attendance and we appreciate your support and understanding in this area.
- In line with social distancing guidelines, parents are asked to say goodbye to their children at the gate or in the car park. Two access points to the property will be available for your convenience with gates at the front entrance and at the rear of the property open for a limited period each morning and afternoon.
- Parents are reminded to keep your child at home if they are sick or feeling unwell.
- Students attending school on site are reminded to bring water for the day in a water bottle. Shared drinking fountains will not be accessible on the school site. Food is not to be shared.
- Your family's safety and wellbeing is important to us. In line with advice from health authorities, on site activities have been modified to reflect:
 - physical distancing and encouraging students to maintain social distance when entering or leaving a classroom
 - adapting activities that lead to mixing between classes and years, including reduced use of common areas and reduced after-school and inter-school activities
 - where possible, avoiding close-proximity queuing and encouraging increased space between students, both in the classroom and playground areas
 - cancelling school excursions, assemblies, sporting activities and other large gatherings
 - where possible, conducting lessons in environments with enhanced ventilation
 - where possible, arranging classroom furniture to leave as much space as possible between students
 - suspending group work if the activity cannot be modified to avoid close physical proximity
 - removing access to shared drinking fountains
 - encouraging non-contact greetings
 - implementing strong cleaning routines of all common touch points
 - ensuring children wash their hands (or apply hand sanitiser) regularly
 - excluding unwell children and staff.

We appreciate your support and understanding in observing these important reminders and helping us ensure the wellbeing of our community as we work together.

We are eagerly looking forward to sharing the new term with you and your family. As we face these days ahead, let us *Fix our Eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith and consider afresh the finished work of Christ on the Cross.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me via our designated email address COVID19@tvcs.sa.edu.au My door is always open to discuss this, or any other matter with you and I look forward to seeing you in the new term.

Yours in Christ's service,



Julie Prattis
Principal