



8 April 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

These are unprecedented times and the impact of COVID-19 is being acutely felt by many. I pray that you all remain safe and well over Easter and in the approaching weeks.

On the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, all Victorian Catholic schools are required to transition to remote and flexible learning arrangements for the duration of Term 2.

As we act to slow the spread of coronavirus, it is required that **all children who can learn at home must learn from home**. The health and safety of everyone in our school community must remain our highest priority.

The majority of staff are currently on holidays and they will return virtually next Tuesday 14 April. On Wednesday 15 April, Kolbe Catholic College will begin remote learning for Term 2.

Schools are able to make exceptions for vulnerable children and for the children of parents engaged in essential services, who cannot make alternative arrangements. We therefore anticipate a small number of students who may need on-site supervision at Kolbe Catholic College. Importantly, those students who must attend school will not be receiving direct instruction, rather they will be supervised by a small number of teachers.

Our remote learning plan (available for download via CareMonkey, SEQTA and the College Website) will continue to be in effect from the beginning of Term 2 and therefore **students at home, or on-site, will be engaged in the same learning**. Remote learning may raise some concerns, especially related to the VCE and VCAL. Mr Calleja will publish ongoing bulletins to clarify expectations and answer any questions that may arise.

If you believe your family is unable to facilitate remote learning due to being essential workers or for other specific reasons, please **complete the following survey by midday Thursday 9 April** to enable us to plan appropriate supervision and support. A member of staff will contact each family seeking supervision to discuss your specific needs.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRxoLWghXaKQXX2IuG7Vh20s0kMh7RQa69Gq\\_xN6zGO3oziA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRxoLWghXaKQXX2IuG7Vh20s0kMh7RQa69Gq_xN6zGO3oziA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

The structure of an onsite day will be published once we ascertain the number of people seeking supervision. I can clarify that the College gates will remain closed to vehicular traffic, other than some staff attending on site. Students attending may access the College via Gate 2. Parents and caregivers are asked to phone the College with enquiries rather than attend on site. Please note that any students requiring on site supervision will need to make their own way to school and to bring their own lunch etc as bus services will not be operating nor will the canteen be serving food.

I would like to reassure families impacted financially by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that we want to assist you in every way possible to continue your child's enrolment at Kolbe Catholic College.

As many in our school community grapple with unprecedented changes to finances, emotional wellbeing and physical health, we have taken a clear position on enrolments. No parent or guardian who wishes their child to receive a Catholic education at Kolbe will be denied the opportunity to do so because of financial circumstances. You will receive a letter clarifying how we can explore confidential financial support arrangements to enable your child's ongoing education at our school. To facilitate your planning, we will respond to applications as promptly as possible given our own constraints during this time.

We are absolutely committed to working with you through these challenging times. The health and safety of everyone in our school community must remain our highest priority. Thank you for your ongoing understanding at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Scully', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr Nick Scully**  
**Principal**