



COVID-19 UPDATE



COVID-19 Member Update - Victorian Catholic Schools - 8 April

<< Test Salutation >>

Yesterday, the Victorian government published guidelines on how government schools are to operate next term. There are important directions concerning staff and student ratios for any on-site supervision arrangements, safety requirements, minimum literacy and numeracy recommendations for remote learning, and an emphasis that for the majority of students, schooling must take place remotely.

Next Tuesday is a student-free day to allow for planning - government schools have been advised that staff who can work from home must do so, that meetings should be held remotely, and that any member of staff that is medically vulnerable or lives with a medically vulnerable person must not attend the workplace. [Click here for the current Department of Education advice.](#)

The [CECV has issued advice](#) to Catholic schools in the Dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat and Sandhurst that is consistent with that applying to government schools. The Diocese of Sale [has also issued similar consistent advice](#). The key points are that during Term 2:

- All students that can safely stay home and be schooled remotely should do so.
- All staff that are able to perform their work remotely should do so.
- Only those staff who are willing to work onsite should be at school, and high-risk staff should not attend the workplace.
- Staff hours of work at home should be consistent with attendance arrangements already in place at each school, and schools should communicate these hours of work to parents and carers.

We support these arrangements, which will minimise the risk of the transmission of COVID-19 through our communities while allowing education to continue. Undoubtedly new challenges for schools, staff and students will emerge – and schools have been asked to use their consultative processes to work out arrangements specific to their school. Consultation should include your Consultative Committee, Health and Safety Rep, IEU Sub-Branch Rep and the IEU Sub-Branch. **To be clear: you must be consulted.** There should be a real opportunity for you to provide recommendations and feedback about what is working and what isn't.

Please continue to check for further information and updates on this [dedicated section of our website](#) and on our [Facebook page](#).

If you need assistance, advice or support, do not hesitate to contact us: email info@ieuvictas.org.au or send a text message to 0480 092 251.

In unity

Debra James
General Secretary