



Monday 2 August

Dear parents and carers,

Today's update will provide a reminder about the process for students in Years 8-11 to select their subjects next year. There will also be some information about opportunities for Work Experience for our Year 10 students. Finally, I have also included details for all families about the continued requirement to wear a mask at Castlemaine Secondary College.

Subject Selection Process

All students have been resent the Course Selection information this afternoon so it is near the top of their emails. It has been sent by "noreply@edval.education" and has the subject heading of "Year 9 Subjects" for our 2022 Year 9 students, or "Senior Subjects" for our 2022 Year 10 – Year 12. Students need to access this email and follow the steps involved.

There is a link in Step 1 to click on, and students need to use the Webcode in Step 2 to login (they need to logout if their computer has saved their information from last year). They then need to ensure they follow the form through until they have submitted it without an error (some subjects have prerequisites and the form won't submit if that is not corrected). Please ensure all subject selections are finalised by Monday 9 August.

Please contact your child's Learning Mentor if you have any difficulties with this process.

Structured Workplace Learning

This information has also been sent to all families of Year 10 students last week.

It is the intention of the College that our Year 10 students are still given the opportunity to participate in a Work Experience Placement this year. In making the decision when the Year 10 Work Experience Placement can happen the following has been considered:

1. The need to settle our Year 10 Students back into classes after the disruption of lockdown 5.
2. The potential impact that lockdown 5 has had on employers and their ability to have a Work Experience student at this time.
3. The high proportion of our Year 10 students doing a VCE subject.

Taking all the above into consideration the school has decided the following:

1. All Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to participate in a Work Experience Placement in the first week of the Third Term break.
2. That participation in a Work Experience Placement this Year now will be voluntary.
3. That students who have a particular reason why a placement in the Third Term break is not possible for them can be accommodated on an individual case by case basis.

For the Work Experience Program to be organised the following documents and tasks still need to be completed or updated:

1. The Work Experience Arrangement Form.
2. The Work Experience Travel and Accommodation Form.
3. Two Safe@Work Occupational Health and Safety Modules.
4. COVID Statement.

If you have any queries or questions in relation to the new arrangements for our 2021 Year 10 Work Experience Program, please do not hesitate to contact either by email: Ian.Cook@education.vic.gov.au or mobile: 0438890280.

A Reminder about Face Masks

School staff and secondary school students aged 12 or older must always wear a face mask at school, including when attending an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, unless a lawful exception applies. Children under 12 years of age are not required to wear face masks when at school.

For communication purposes, teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can.

Face masks are mandatory for all school staff and school students aged 12 or older when travelling to and from school on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles.

It is important that any student who experiences COVID-19 symptoms stays at home until these symptoms abate.

The symptoms to watch out for are:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss or change in sense of smell or taste

Please contact the college via the absence line (5479 1150), if your child is unwell, to notify us of their absence. If the absence is going to be longer than 3 days, please make contact with the appropriate Precinct Manager to discuss the provision of work.

My next update to parents and carers will be on **Monday 9 August** unless there is something I need to communicate with you all urgently prior to that.

Regards,



Simon Wood
Acting Principal – Castlemaine Secondary College