



Monday 13 September

Dear parents and carers,

As we move into the last week of Term 3 it is great to see our senior students continue to be able to engage in their work on-site. I have had conversations with many people about the continued uncertainty of these times and I encourage you to make contact with the college if you have concerns about your child's academic progress or wellbeing. We are here to support them and have strong structures in place to do so.

This update will provide details about the continued roll out of the vaccine program across the state of Victoria and a reminder about the Webinar being hosted by the Victorian Department of Health tomorrow night.

COVID Vaccine Rollout

As part of the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out, from Monday 13 September, all Victorians aged 12 and older are [eligible to book and receive a COVID-19 vaccine](#) at a state vaccination centre, a Commonwealth vaccination centre, or through a GP clinic, pharmacy or community health service.

Vaccination bookings for students should be made by following the instructions under the heading 'How to book an appointment' below.

Vaccination is not mandatory but is strongly encouraged. Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect our school community from further outbreaks and the spread of COVID-19.

The Victorian Government's aim is to provide an opportunity for all children aged 12 years and older to receive at least one vaccine dose by the end of the school year.

Final year school student vaccination blitz

A reminder that final year students (all Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) Units 3/4 students, final year Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and final year International Baccalaureate (IB) students), their teachers and exam supervisors and assessors have access to priority timeslots to attend their vaccination appointment at a state vaccination centre until Sunday 19 September.

The vaccination blitz for final year school students has been extended until Sunday 19 September, following a very strong and positive response from the community in the first week of the blitz.

How to Book an Appointment

Bookings for a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine can be made for children aged 12 years and older via state vaccination centres, Commonwealth vaccination centres, GP clinics, pharmacies and community health services.

Find a participating Commonwealth vaccination centre, GP, pharmacy or community health service through the [Australian Government Eligibility Checker](#). You can book your appointment online or by calling the vaccine provider nearest to you.

School students can book or change a vaccination appointment at a state vaccination centre through the [Victorian Government's COVID-19 vaccine online booking system](#).

To find a state vaccination centre and opening times, visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

For information on what to bring to a vaccine appointment please visit [Checklist: before your COVID-19 vaccination](#).

COVID-19 Webinar

A reminder also that the Victorian Department of Health is hosting a live webinar for young people to provide information on COVID-19 vaccines and how to support their mental health. You can join the free webinar on Tuesday 14 September, 6-7pm. Registration is via this link.

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Topics covered include:

- Vaccines, development and safety
- Accessing and consenting to a vaccination
- How to book an appointment
- How to support your mental health
- Q+A with the panel.

This event will be held via Microsoft Teams Live. For access information visit [Attend a live event in Teams](#).

Please also ensure you check the exposure sites listed on the Department of Health's [website](#) and notify the college if you are required to isolate after visiting a listed site.

My next update will be on Tuesday 14 September.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Wood', written in a cursive style.

Simon Wood
Acting Principal – Castlemaine Secondary College