



Thursday 18 November

Dear parents and carers,

I am sure you will be aware there have been some significant changes to restrictions announced today which will come in place tomorrow. This is great news for our college community as we move towards the end of the year. This update will provide some detail about these changes, with further information to follow in the coming days. I have also included information about changes to our reporting structure for our end of year reports.

Easing of Restrictions

In line with the further easing of restrictions announced today, masks will no longer be required in secondary colleges across the state. Students who catch a school bus to the college will not be required to wear a mask, however those who catch a public bus will. Due to the larger number of students in rooms for our Year 10 and 11 exams, masks are recommended but not compulsory.

The Department of Health will no longer be conducting contact tracing and exposure sites will no longer be publicly listed. It therefore becomes increasingly important for all visitors to the college to be fully vaccinated and be able to show proof of this as they sign in. Any confirmed cases in the student population must be reported to the college so we can conduct our own contact tracing to advise affected families. Further information about testing and isolation requirements under these circumstances will be provided as soon as it is available.

2021 End of Semester Reports

At Castlemaine Secondary College we know it is vital to involve students and their parents/carers in learning. This includes providing a written report to parents/carers on student progress and achievement at least twice a year.

The Department of Education and Training has recently adjusted the expectations around student reporting for Semester 2 in recognition of the disruption caused by COVID-19.

Castlemaine Secondary College will therefore provide a modified written report for the parent/carer of each student enrolled at the school for Semester 2, 2021 focusing on what progress has been made and what has been achieved by each child.

Reports will include:

- a description of the areas of the Victorian Curriculum Foundation to Level 10, including Towards Foundation Levels A to D, taught;
- for English and Mathematics:
 - student achievement information represented on a continuum of learning;
 - progress made since the last time these curriculum areas were reported on;
 - a five-point scale.
- for all other curriculum areas taught:
 - student achievement information represented on a continuum of learning, progress made since the last time the curriculum areas were reported on, and a five-point scale;

Staff may also choose to write a short comment on progress and achievement across the semester, however this will not be provided for all subjects.

Parents/carers are welcome to contact learning mentors and subject teachers through Xuno or email to arrange a time to discuss your child's report.

Thank you for your continued support during the transition between remote and flexible learning and onsite learning.

I will continue to provide updates when there is information which needs to be shared with you all.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Regards,

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

Simon Wood
Acting Principal – Castlemaine Secondary College