

## Principal Team Report

Research indicates that parents showing a consistent interest in a child's education is the most important factor in raising his or her achievement. I know that over this year you have all become much more acutely aware of our school program and be reassured that this will be one of the very positive outcomes of our lockdown. We really appreciate all parents and carers have done in partnership with our staff.

Last week Richard, Karen and I attended an on-line Principal Forum for all principals in the North Western Victorian Region. There were almost 400 in attendance. David Howes, who is the Schools and Regional Services Deputy Secretary spoke about maintaining our focus. David was formally the Chief Executive Officer of the VCAA and I have always valued the things he has to say as he is very well informed, data driven and education focused. He reflected on the year to date and re-affirmed emphasis on school improvement and understanding how we can continue to strive towards equity, excellence and wellbeing. I felt proud and reassured that our focus is very much in line with what the experts are indicating is the direction we need to follow. He also wants us to reframe the year – it is not a year of loss of learning but a year of student growth in metacognition, self-management and regulation, independence, resilience and the list goes on.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is having a significant effect on every aspect of life in Victoria, testing our resilience and mental health. Changes we could not have imagined six months ago are now our daily reality. The usual connections that students have with school are harder to support during flexible and remote learning.

The mental health and wellbeing of our students is vitally important, especially now as we face the ongoing impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) and further flexible and remote learning. If students aren't mentally and physically well, they can't learn effectively.

### WELLBEING RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Remote and flexible learning can be challenging for both students and parents.

Topics include:

- [Looking after your child's wellbeing](#)
- [Looking after your child's mental health](#)
- [Keeping your child active and eating healthy](#)
- [Being safe online](#)
- [Taking care of yourself.](#)

### FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS/CARERS BY CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST – DR MICHAEL CARR-GREGG

On Tuesday 25 August, the Department of Education and Training is presenting a free webinar for parents and carers by renowned child psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, on building family resilience during coronavirus (COVID-19).

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping children feel safe through uncertain times.

Dr Carr-Gregg's webinar is aptly named Managing the Coronacoaster – Tips for building resilient families in the coronavirus era.

In this webinar, Dr Carr-Gregg provides tools and strategies for parents and carers to help manage the lockdown and remote learning. Topics include:

- your supportive role
- setting the emotional tone
- focusing on what you can control
- how to deal with disappointment
- further resources and where to get help.
- Dr Carr-Gregg's presentation will run for 45 minutes. This will be followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer session in which parents and carers can ask Dr Carr-Gregg questions.

# Principal Team Report

Dr Carr-Gregg's presentation will run for 45 minutes. This will be followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer session in which parents and carers can ask Dr Carr-Gregg questions.

## Webinar details

**When:** Tuesday 25 August  
**Time:** 7:30pm  
**Duration:** 45-minute presentation followed by 15-minute questions and answers session  
**Format:** Online via WebEx  
**Cost:** Free

## How to register:

To register and for more information visit the [Managing the Coronacoaster – Tips for building resilient families in the coronavirus era eventbrite page](#).



## PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

A reminder that parent teacher interviews will be held on Thursday 27 August 2020 – there will be no remote classes on that day. The interviews will be held using Zoom video conferencing. Bookings closed on Thursday 20 August.

## WE WANT OUR STUDENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School Survey is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

Students from Year 7 to 12 at our school will participate in the survey. Your child will complete the survey online during school hours using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during, or after completion of the survey.

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. All responses to the survey are kept anonymous in the response file. Personal identification data will not be recorded in the survey response file. This ensures that the confidentiality of your child's responses is protected at all times.

This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the last few weeks of this term. The survey only takes 20 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time.

The survey results will be reported back to the school later this year. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified. Data suppression rules are used for schools with low student numbers per year level.

If you would like more information, please speak to your child's teacher or visit: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/improvement/Pages/performsurveyat.aspx>

Take care and find joy in simple things and stay safe.

  
**Trish Horner**  
College Principal



**Richard Dungey**  
Senior Campus  
Principal



**Karen Eastlake**  
Middle Years  
Campus Principal



# College Report

## A Message from Our College Captains:

"2020 will definitely be a year we all will never forget. As captains, we want to reiterate that no matter the challenges we face, we will get through this together. As fellow Year 12 students we understand how inconvenient the transition to remote learning has been, especially during a year which we have all looked forward to.

Although frustrating, for the sake of our loved ones and our own health it is imperative that we abide by the directions of our state leaders. This Year 12 course is very different from what we had expected when we began the year, however, we are all experiencing these changes together, you are not alone. Keep doing your best to stay motivated and don't lose sight of your goals despite these challenging circumstances.

We would also like to continue sending our positive wishes to all of our front line workers, school staff and community. Please stay safe and healthy, and remember to follow all the guidelines provided by the Department of Health Victoria."

-Felix W and Tharshika S, College Captains 2020

## Year 9 Clothing and Design

"Last week we students in Year 9 Clothing and Design elective created masks to keep ourselves engaged during remote learning. At first, the task seemed a bit hard as we had to collect materials, make a design brief and sew the mask. Because of the encouragement and great support from Mrs Allender and peers, we were able to finish a functional mask that is both handmade and reusable.

Overall this task made us understand that even if we don't have sewing machines or professional materials that are available at school, a needle, thread and a piece of fabric is all you need to get you started.

It was a great experience and what we were able to achieve was far beyond what we imagined we could do during remote learning. Stay positive, stay safe!!" - Junia A, 9H

(Photos are from Junia A, Naomi F, Nishanty S and Holly H)



# College Report

## 2021 APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT OPEN NOW

If you are looking to apply for a position at our College in 2021 please fill out our Enrolment Enquiry form through the following link on our website: <https://www.millparksc.vic.edu.au/enrolment/>

Once the form has been submitted it will be forwarded to the Enrolment Officer who will contact you.

Alternatively if you would like to contact please see below our contact details:

- Middle Years Campus (Years 7-9) on [\(03\) 9407 9700](tel:0394079700) between 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Senior Campus (Years 10 -12) on [\(03\) 9409 8222](tel:0394098222) between 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Contact us via email at [mill.park.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:mill.park.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

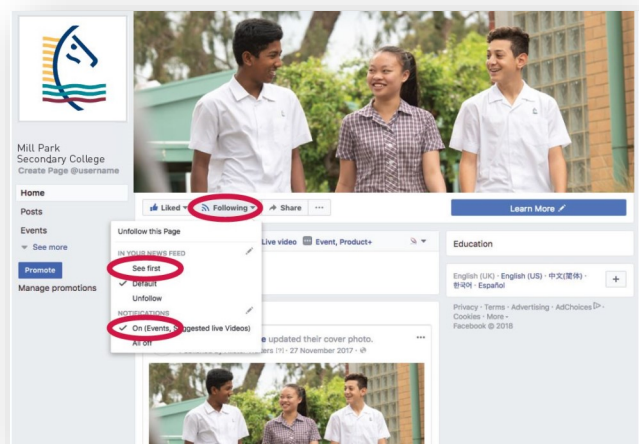


LIKE US at <https://www.facebook.com/millparksc/>

This screenshot shows you where to find SEE FIRST when you are liking the page.

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. 'Like' Mill Park Secondary College.
2. To the right of the 'Like' button you will see 'Following' with a drop down arrow.
3. Please select 'See First in Newsfeed' and 'Notifications On (Events)'.



Friday 21 August

# Career News



## Dates to Diarise in Term 3

- Year 12 VTAC timely applications – throughout August and September
- VTAC SEAS and Scholarship applications open August and September



## News from the University of Melbourne

### ⇒ Guaranteed ATARs for 2021

The university has taken into consideration the challenges and disruptions to Year 12 students this year, so 2021 admissions will look a little different at the University of Melbourne. All applicants who meet the course prerequisites and guaranteed ATAR for their preferred course will achieve a place at the University when they receive their ATAR on 30 December 2020. The new guaranteed ATARs aim to provide students with comfort and assurance during the holiday period, allowing them to prepare for life and study at the University of Melbourne in 2021.

To be eligible for guaranteed entry, applicants must also meet the following requirements:

- All course prerequisites and achieve the ATAR (or notional ATAR) outlined in the table below
- Apply to their preferred undergraduate course at the University via VTAC

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE	2021 MINIMUM ATAR	2021 GUARANTEED ATAR
Bachelor of Agriculture	70.00	72.00
Bachelor of Arts	85.00	88.00
Bachelor of Biomedicine	94.00	95.00
Bachelor of Commerce	93.00	95.00
Bachelor of Design	85.00	88.00
Bachelor of Science	85.00	88.00



## ⇒ **Fine Arts and Music Degrees**

Year 12 students applying for the following Fine Arts or Music courses at the University of Melbourne for 2021 are encouraged to take note of extra-requirements for eligibility to be selected. All applicants must submit their Supplementary Application Form (available from their VTAC Account) by the dates listed. There is a US\$25 (\$35-40) fee to submit the Supplementary Form\*. **Recorded auditions will need to be uploaded via the Supplementary Application form and closing dates vary, so please check the VTAC website very carefully - [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au), as well as [UniMelb Auditions and Interviews](#) for more details about interviews or call-backs for short-listed applicants.**

COURSE	VTAC CODE	PREREQUISITES	ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS
Fine Arts (Acting)	380061 0071 380061 0073	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> upload recorded audition by 30 September
Fine Arts (Animation)	380063 9071 380063 9073	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> complete a selection test by 30 September
Fine Arts (Dance)	380063 8931 380063 8933	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form by 30 September <b>and</b> upload a video-recorded audition by 15 October
Fine Arts (Film & Television)	380063 8941 380063 8943	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> complete a selection test by 30 September
Fine Arts (Music Theatre)	380063 8951 380063 8953	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> upload video recorded audition by 30 September
Fine Arts (Production)	380063 8961 380063 8963	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form by 30 September <b>and</b> upload the selection project by 30 October
Fine Arts (Screenwriting)	380063 9081 380063 9083	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> complete a selection test by 30 September
Fine Arts (Theatre)	380061 0081 380061 0083	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> upload recorded audition by 30 September
Fine Arts (Visual Arts)	380063 8991 380063 8993	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form <b>and</b> upload a digital portfolio by 30 September
Music	380053 8231 380053 8233	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	Apply and complete the Supplementary Form by 30 September <b>and</b> upload video recorded audition by 5 October

### ⇒ **Medicine Courses**

Year 12 students applying for any of the undergraduate **medicine courses** are reminded that the closing date for VTAC applications is 30 September 2020. No late applications will be accepted. Students are also reminded that they should not remove a medicine preference from their VTAC preference list unless they no longer wish to apply for that course. Once removed, they cannot be added back in; they can, however, be moved up and down the preference list using the arrows.

### ⇒ **Music Degree at Monash**

Year 12 students planning to apply for the Bachelor of Music or the Bachelor Music are reminded that applicants must complete the online Music performance audition/composition submission form available at [Monash Music Audition Information](#), and pay the audition/composition fee of \$70 AUD (inc. GST) by 30 September 2020.

Students are to take note that all auditions for 2021 entry will be held online.

Students considering applying for Music at Monash should visit [Preparing for your Audition](#) and familiarise themselves with the particular audition requirements for the four streams: *classical, jazz, popular music, and composition and music technology*.

Find out more about the Bachelor of Music [here](#)

### ⇒ **Science Advanced - Global Challenges (Honours)**

*The **Bachelor of Science Advanced – Global Challenges (Honours)** includes all the elements of a Bachelor of Science, but with more. If you love science, and you are curious, adventurous, creative, and prepared to challenge the status quo, then this course is for you.*

In addition to studying the scientific discipline of their choice, students will also receive high-level training in *leadership, persuasive communication, entrepreneurship, policy, ethics, and corporate social responsibility*.

To be eligible for consideration, students need to attain an estimate ATAR of 90.90 and meet the pre-requisite Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 35 in English (EAL) or at least 30 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in one of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Maths: Mathematical Methods, Maths: Specialist Mathematics, Physics or Psychology. Students may also be required to submit an online Supplementary Information form through VTAC by 16 November 2020.

As already mentioned, applicants must make a written submission and, if shortlisted, will be invited to an interview. Students can refer to the [Global Challenges website](#) for more information on the supplementary form questions, as well as the interview dates, which will soon be published.

To find out more, visit [Science Advanced - Global Challenges \(Honours\)](#)



## Studying Architecture at Swinburne

*From crafting areas that promote wellbeing, to engineering bridges and designing interiors for the future – choose a course in Built Environment and Architecture at Swinburne, and you'll learn how to apply innovation in spaces far and wide.*

Swinburne offers a range of architecture-related courses. Two such courses are –

The [Bachelor of Design \(Architecture\)](#) focuses on building design, and students get to *tackle digital technology, environmental awareness, construction, practice, ethics, history and theory* as they gain skills for the future of architecture.

The [Bachelor of Architectural Engineering](#) allows students to not only design the aesthetics of buildings, but also learn foundational engineering disciplines too.



## News from RMIT University

### ⇒ Fashion Programs at RMIT

RMIT offers a range of Bachelor programs in Fashion including:

- [Bachelor of Fashion \(Design\)](#)
- [Bachelor of Fashion \(Enterprise\)](#)
- [Bachelor of Fashion and Textiles \(Sustainable Innovation\)](#)
- [Bachelor of Textiles \(Design\)](#)

Also, on completion of any of the abovementioned courses, students may choose to enrol in the one-year [Bachelor of Fashion \(Design\) \(Honours\)](#).

### ⇒ Bachelor of Business (Blockchain Enabled Business)

*The adoption of digital interaction and new ways of doing business has massively and rapidly increased since early 2020. The rollout of the digital economy is now a worldwide economic imperative, and people who can work and lead in the global digital economy will have secure career opportunities.*

Blockchain is a transformative technology at the centre of the new digital economy, with wide-ranging applications across all aspects of commerce, government, and social enterprises. It is fundamentally reshaping the industrial, employment and social landscape that future graduates will live and work in.

The new [Bachelor of Business \(Blockchain Enabled Business\)](#) has been designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to work at the frontier of the emerging new digital economy. This is a world first, truly multi-disciplinary applied degree that will prepare graduates to work in a globalised, international context in a range of in-demand roles and sectors. Besides gaining skills in *accounting, marketing, management, statistics, and business IT*, students will also get to learn about *blockchain and the economy, cryptofinance and fintech, building and using smart contracts, blockchain for trade, and the legal, ethical and regulatory aspects* of these new technologies.



## Upcoming Webinars

Federation University is hosting two interesting webinars in the next couple of weeks:

**Bachelor of Biotechnology** – Wednesday 19 August, 5.00pm – 5.30pm. Register [here](#)

**Bachelor of Geoscience** – Wednesday 26 August, 5.00pm – 5.30pm. Register [here](#)

Students unable to participate in the webinars, may wish to browse [Bachelor of Biotechnology](#) and [Bachelor of Geoscience](#)





## **Snapshot of the University of Queensland (UQ) in 2020**

- UQ is one of Australia's leading research and teaching institutions
- UQ is consistently ranked well inside the top 100 of more than 10,000 universities worldwide - [International Rankings](#)
- UQ is located in and around Brisbane, and the university has teaching and research sites throughout Queensland, and its major campuses are at St Lucia, Gatton and Herston - [Campuses & Locations](#)
- There are six faculties at UQ, which are responsible for academic programs and decisions regarding a student's pursuit of their academic program - [Faculties](#)
- At UQ students can choose from an extensive range of undergraduate programs, many of which can be "customised" by major – and minor – fields of study. Programs are organised through schools and faculties, but sometimes a student can "mix and match" between them with electives and dual degrees - [Undergraduate Courses & Programs](#)
- UQ has a diverse student exchange program, and students can study overseas for up to one year while gaining credit towards their UQ degree. UQ has over 180 exchange partners in over 40 countries - [UQ Abroad](#)
- Students keen on learning another language can enrol in one of over 30 different language courses through UQ's Institute of Modern Languages - [Institute of Modern Languages](#)
- There are over 120 clubs and societies at UQ, all aimed at expand a student's social life, playing an important role in the UQ student experience - [Clubs and Societies](#)
- The [Employability Award](#) program is a structured program that recognises the personal and professional development a student gains from their involvement in activities above and beyond academic studies.
- UQ has a dedicated website designed for future students to find answers to all the questions they might have about studying at UQ - [UQ Answers](#)
- UQ has some excellent facilities including -
  - ⇒ a state-of-the-art multi-purpose learning space for first-year engineering
  - ⇒ students called the Engineering Learning Centre - [Engineering Learning Centre](#)
  - ⇒ the School of Veterinary Science complex - [Veterinary Science](#)
  - ⇒ the Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence (PACE) precinct which houses the School of Pharmacy - [Pharmacy](#)
- UQ has 10 residential colleges - [Accommodation](#)
- UQ offers a range of scholarship options to make university study more affordable, ranging in value up to \$12,000 per year for the VC Scholarship - [Scholarships](#)





## Exercise Science & Sport Degrees in Victoria in 2020

UNIVERSITY	COURSES	VCE PREREQUISITE SUBJECTS IN 2020	ATAR 2020
<a href="#">ACU</a> M - Melbourne	<b>Exercise &amp; Sport Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in one of Biology, Chemistry, any Mathematics, Physical Education, Physics or Psychology.	<b>58.60 (M)</b>
	<b>High Performance Sport</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in one of Biology, Chemistry, any Mathematics, Physical Education, Physics or Psychology	<b>58.75 (M)</b>
<a href="#">DEAKIN</a> M – Melbourne G – Geelong Warrnambool	<b>Business (Sport Management)</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>78.25 (M)</b>
	<b>Exercise &amp; Sport Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL.	<b>62.20 (G) 70.00 (M)</b>
	<b>Sport Development</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>65.25 (M)</b>
<a href="#">FEDERATION</a> Mt.H – Mt. Helen, Ballarat	<b>Exercise &amp; Sport Science</b>	Units 1 and 2: satisfactory completion in two units (any study combination) of Maths: General Mathematics, Maths: Mathematical Methods or Maths: Specialist Mathematics or Units 3 and 4: any Mathematics; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in any English.	<b>37.05 (Mt H)</b>
<a href="#">LA TROBE</a> B – Bendigo M - Melbourne	<b>Business (Sport Development &amp; Management)</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>55.20 (B)</b>
	<b>Business (Sport Management)</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>55.10 (M)</b>
	<b>Exercise Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in two of Biology, Chemistry, any Mathematics, Physical Education or Physics.	<b>71.55 (B)</b>
	<b>Exercise and Master Physiology</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in two of Biology, Chemistry, any Mathematics, Physical Education or Physics.	<b>66.65 (B)</b>
	<b>Sport and Exercise Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in two of Biology, Chemistry, Health And Human Development, any Mathematics, Physical Education or Physics.	<b>60.80 (M)</b>
	<b>Sport Coaching &amp; Development</b>	Exercise prescription, Health sciences, Sport and exercise physiology, Sport and exercise science, Sport coaching and development, Sport management, Sports analytics.	<b>55.15 (M)</b>
<a href="#">RMIT</a> Bu - Bundoora	<b>Exercise &amp; Sport Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in one of Biology, Chemistry, Maths: Mathematical Methods, Maths: Specialist Mathematics, Physical Education or Physics.	<b>62.60 (Bu)</b>
<a href="#">SWINBURNE</a> H - Hawthorn	<b>Exercise and Sport Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in any Mathematics.	<b>60.85 (H)</b>
<a href="#">VIC UNI</a> F – Footscray F/ S.A – Footscray / St. Albans	<b>Biomedical &amp; Exercise Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL; Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in two of Biology, Chemistry, Health And Human Development, any Mathematics or Physical Education.	<b>71.55 (F/ S.A)</b>
	<b>Exercise Science - Clinical Practice</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>n/a (F)</b>
	<b>Exercise Science – Sport Practice</b>		<b>62.50 (F)</b>
	<b>Sport Management</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>n/a (F)</b>
	<b>Sport Science</b>	Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English (EAL) or at least 20 in English other than EAL.	<b>n/a (F)</b>

# Secondary school immunisation program 2020 during COVID-19

Advice for parents and guardians – 3 August 2020

**While most students are learning from home at present, Victoria's Chief Health Officer has advised that delivery of the secondary school immunisation program is an essential medical service and your child should still receive the required vaccines on time.**

## What vaccines are required?

For Year 7 (age 12-13 years) secondary school students the recommended vaccines are:

- Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine (dTp) (1 injection)
- Human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) (2 injections, 6 months apart)

For Year 10 (age 15-16 years) secondary school students the recommended vaccine is:

- Meningococcal ACWY (1 injection)

Some students may have received all or some of their recommended vaccines already this year. Parents / guardians would be aware when this is the case because signed parent/guardian permission is required.

## What are the options for obtaining these vaccines?

Parents/carers have the following options for obtaining the necessary vaccinations for their children, if not already received:

- Attend an immunisation session provided by local council immunisation services – your school will inform you when this is available
- Visit your GP (doctor)
- For Year 10 students, visit a pharmacist immuniser service. This service can only vaccinate Year 10 students aged from 15 years and older.

## Why attend a local council immunisation session?

As with previous years, the local council immunisation service will work with your school, and your school will communicate with you about when and where an immunisation session will take place.

Local council immunisation services design sessions to suit their communities. They are staffed by specialist immunisation nurses.

These sessions may be provided at your school or your school and the local council may determine an alternative venue that better facilitates the required social distancing and hygiene requirements under current restrictions.

The Victorian government has provided guidance for local council immunisation services on how to make these sessions as safe and effective as possible. These sessions are provided free.

## What safety precautions will councils be putting in place at immunisation sessions?

Council immunisation services have been advised to:

- move vaccination services to larger spaced community venues if required for social distancing/hygiene
- consider using a booking system to space attendance
- display signage at the entrance of immunisation sessions that specifies unwell people (such as those with fever, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath, or a cough) and those who are a suspected or confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) or are

- a close contact of a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) are not to attend immunisation sessions
- provide hand washing or sanitising facilities at the entrance or reception area
- arrange client seating, queuing and administration so that there is 1.5 metres between clients and between clients and staff
- limit the vaccine process to one adult with the child being vaccinated (unless there are special circumstances)
- minimise physical contact with client record documents
- make hand cleaning facilities available to nurse immunisers between clients
- regularly clean surfaces with an alcohol-based disinfectant.

## Shouldn't we be staying at home?

Travel and attendance at an immunisation service or to receive a vaccine is considered an essential activity under current restrictions, which allow for Victorians to leave their homes to seek medical care. One parent or carer should accompany students.

Maintaining existing public health initiatives, such as the secondary school immunisation program, is a priority at a time when of safe and effective vaccination programs are so important.

## What about the other options for obtaining the vaccines?

- **Your GP** can provide the vaccines. You will need to make an appointment and accompany your child. Be aware that, while the vaccines are free under the National Immunisation Program, your GP may charge an appointment fee.
- **A pharmacist immuniser** may also be able to provide the necessary vaccine (to Year 10 students only). Pharmacist immunisers are registered pharmacists with extra training that allows them to give some vaccines to some groups. Call your local pharmacist to find out if they can provide this service. Your pharmacist may charge a fee. You will need to accompany your child.

## Will there be a record that my child has received the required vaccination/s?

Vaccinations that are free under the National Immunisation Program should be recorded on the

Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) by the immunisation provider. You may wish to confirm this with the immunisation provider at the time the vaccine is given.

The Australian Immunisation Register is a national register administered by Medicare that records all vaccinations given in Australia, including to children.

If you have a Medicare number, you can access your child's records on the Australian Immunisation Register through the Medicare online services website or by calling the Register on 1800 653 809.

## Why not delay the vaccine program until students are attending school again?

Any delay in the delivery of vaccines may not be able to take place if an increase in community transmission of the COVID-19 virus should occur. The current restrictions allow for the program to go ahead.

Going ahead with the program while adhering to social distancing and hygiene measures ensures the health of our Year 7 and 10 students.

In the case where Year 7 students have received their first dose of HPV, a second dose is required after a minimum of six months for the best protection.

For Year 10 students, timely vaccination against meningococcal disease is important because - although meningococcal disease is uncommon - it can become very serious, very quickly. Adolescents are at increased risk of meningococcal disease.

## What if I have more questions?

If you have any questions regarding the delivery of the secondary school immunisation program, please contact your school or local council immunisation service.

**To receive this publication in an accessible format phone 1300 882 008, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email [immunisation@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:immunisation@dhs.vic.gov.au)**

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