

# St. Albans Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write with good news about our school.

The Department of Health (DH) has cleared our school site to reopen from Wednesday 6 October.

Our school will continue to learn remotely, in line with the current stay home advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, however this means staff and eligible students, which are the children of authorised workers and students experiencing vulnerability, can now return to school for on-site supervision from this date, (as previously communicated).

The school has undergone a deep clean in preparation for eligible students and staff returning onsite.

As we welcome eligible students back to school on **Wednesday 6 October**, we ask that all parents and carers bear with us while we work through the clearance requirements for all students.

If any student or family member has any COVID-19 symptoms they must immediately get tested (or retested) and isolate at home until they receive a negative test result.

Like all Victorian Government schools, our school has a COVIDSafe plan, which includes extra cleaning and record-keeping of all staff, students and visitors who attend on-site. Checking in with QR codes is mandatory for any visitors to schools including parents who come into school buildings and indoor facilities (but not staff or students).

Staff, students and visitors to schools are reminded to stay up to date with current face mask advice. It is now recommended primary-school-age children wear masks while indoors and outdoors, except when in the home or when an exception applies. However, it is not mandatory. Further information can be found at [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks-in-schools](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks-in-schools).

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## Vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccines are safe, free and voluntary. COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing infection and protecting against serious illness from COVID-19. Getting vaccinated is the best way you can protect yourself, your family and our school community from further outbreaks.

For more information on vaccinations and how to book an appointment, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://coronavirus.vic.gov.au) or use the Australian Government's COVID-19 vaccine clinic finder. You can also contact the Department of Health Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398.

## More information

For more information please visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://coronavirus.vic.gov.au).

If you have questions about what this means for our school, call the Department of Education and Training COVID-19 hotline on **1800 338 663**, available 8:30am to 5pm Monday through Friday, and 10am to 3pm Saturday and Sunday, excluding public holidays.

If you are a primary close contact or secondary close contact, DH will contact you. If you require further information you can contact DH on 1300 651 160. If you are concerned you may have COVID-19 you can call the DH 24-hour COVID-19 hotline on 1800 675 398.

For school information in languages other than English, call TIS National on **131 450**. Please ask them to call the DET COVID-19 hotline on **1800 338 663** and they will help interpret. For health advice in languages other than English, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translated-information-about-coronavirus-covid-19](http://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translated-information-about-coronavirus-covid-19).

I would like to thank the entire school community for your support during this time.

Yours sincerely,



**JOANNE RICHMOND**  
**PRINCIPAL**