

Dear Parent/Carers

I am sure you have all seen/heard the media releases from the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr and the Minister of Education, Yvette Berry regarding the staggered return to school starting Monday 18 May 2020 for Year 7, Monday 25 May 2020 for Year 7 & 10 and Tuesday 2 June 2020 for Years 7-10. Apologies in advance this email is much longer than my usual communication, please feel free to contact any of the following people to discuss the content. All previous emails and attachments are available from the schools website [HERE](#).

Principal, Simon Vaughan: [Simon.Vaughan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Simon.Vaughan@ed.act.edu.au)

Student Engagement Deputy Principal, Ryan Kay: [Ryan.Kay@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Ryan.Kay@ed.act.edu.au)

Strategic Operations Deputy Principal, Shannon Carnovale:

[Shannon.Carnovale@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Shannon.Carnovale@ed.act.edu.au)

### **WHAT DOES THIS ANNOUNCEMENT MEAN FOR YOUR CHILD(REN)?**

- Safe & Supervised Sites will close Friday 15 May 2020
- Students registered and currently attending the Safe & Supervised Sites are welcome to attend an onsite educational program at Melrose High School (MHS) as of Monday 18 May 2020 regardless of their year group
- Families wishing for their child(ren) to attend prior to the advertised date outlined for each year group, can still register through the Education Directorate until COB Sunday 10 May 2020 using this link: <https://bit.ly/actsupervisedcare>
- Families who chose to send their child(ren) back to school early for whatever reason need to register with the Education Directorate and should email me at: [Shannon.Carnovale@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Shannon.Carnovale@ed.act.edu.au).
- MHS will continue to deliver a remote learning package through flexible delivery to students throughout the staggered return – more information about the virtual face to face sessions and how this will operate will be emailed to students and families by COB Tuesday 12 May 2020.
- Students who are unwell and/or live with a person who is unwell or has COVID-19 symptoms should not attend school.

### **HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT US?**

1. **ONLINE STUDENT ATTENDANCE** - We are required to mark virtual attendance and this is completed through Check-in on Monday, Wednesday and Friday AND the virtual face to face session on Tuesday and Thursday. If your child(ren) does not attend these sessions they will be marked absent and you will receive an SMS and email outlining non-attendance. If, for whatever reasons, your child(ren) is not engaging in remote learning or has an agreed flexible delivery the school requires an explanation, please forward all emails to the Rolls Office at: [RollsOffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au](mailto:RollsOffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au).
2. **STAGGERED RETURN** – As outlined in the letter you received from the ACT Chief Health Officer, Kerry Coleman we need your support to ensure the following:
  - Physical distancing for adults – maintain 1.5 metres and where possible do not enter the school grounds.

- Risks to vulnerable populations in schools – consult medical practitioner to determine suitability for onsite learning
  - Hygiene – good practices is essential we request that you remind you child(ren) about the importance of regular hand washing, using hand sanitiser, not sharing drink bottles etc.
  - Management of suspected or confirmed cases – staff and students experiencing symptoms compatible with COVID-19 (eg. fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath) should stay home and parent/carers of students who attend school and present with these symptoms will be sent home
3. **ATTENDANCE FOR STAGGERED RETURN** – we are excited to welcome students back to school as outlined above, families choosing to keep their child(ren) at home beyond the scheduled return dates, must contact the school.
  4. **ONLINE LEARNING PROTOCOLS** – congratulations to students, Year Coordinators and the Student Engagement Team for creating the attached protocols for online learning at home and in school. These were created by year groups in their first virtual year meeting. Please have a look through these and chat with your child(ren), feedback should be directed to the Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) Team by emailing the Student Engagement Executive Teacher, Nathan Hitchcock: [Nathan.Hitchcock@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Nathan.Hitchcock@ed.act.edu.au)

### **SUPPORT FOR PARENT/CARERS**

1. **ISSUES WITH CHROMEBOOKS:** Students having Chromebook problems can log the issue using this form (<https://forms.gle/rYwz4EjC2WLDZvqT6>) and we will be in touch regarding an assessment of the device. Students need to be logged into their schoolsnet account to fill in the form (access with **any device** via <https://backpack.ed.act.edu.au/> if they can't get into their Chromebook to fill in the form).
2. **MELROSE TOOLBOX:** Thank you to Learning Support teachers, Lynn Hart and Tony Hilton, along with Ruth Mahon for developing the Toolbox , which has now evolved to provide more information on how to connect with learning regardless of whether you are in the classroom or at home. Over the next few weeks we will continue to upload new content. We have added a new section called The Digital Learning Hub that contains information about connecting to an online learning environment. Of course all your favourite study help is still available in the Study Hub section. Students and parent/carers can access it here: <https://sites.google.com/schoolsnet.act.edu.au/mlrhstyleguide/home>
3. **FAQ:** Thank you to the families who have added their questions to our Q&A Survey, attached is the first FAQ answers. To support us to ensure we develop targeted resources, please use the link below to lodge your questions: [Learning from home – Ask us a question](#)
4. **LIBRARIES ACT DIGITAL HELPLINE** - ACT libraries may be closed due to COVID-19, but their online services are always open! In response to the growing demand for their digital resources, Libraries ACT has launched a new dedicated helpline, available 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday (except public holidays), give the Libraries ACT Digital Helpline a call on 6207 7265. This information will be made available on the [Libraries ACT website](#)

5. **COMMUNITY SERVICES TO SUPPORT REFUGEE & MIGRANT FAMILIES** - The Multicultural HUB Canberra and Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services Australia (MARSS) are a community service organisation which provides extra support to young people and families affected by COVID-19. This support includes free tutoring services to assist with home schooling, vouchers for groceries, internet access and housing assistance. The services on offer can be viewed online at [Multicultural HUB Canberra](#) and [Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services \(MARSS\)](#) and through the attachment.
6. **PARENTING IDEAS ARTICLES** – two articles attached.
7. **SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY** - The health and wellbeing of our community is important to us and we are putting in place lots of supports to keep connected with families. The Student Engagement Team remain connected to the school and are available to support you, please email them at: [URSafe@Melrosehs.act.edu.au](mailto:URSafe@Melrosehs.act.edu.au), additional contacts are listed in the table below.

WHO	ROLE	CONTACT
Tim Pike	Year 7 Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Tim.Pike@ed.act.edu.au">Tim.Pike@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Dane Wells	Year 8 Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Dane.Wells@ed.act.edu.au">Dane.Wells@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Kerryn Leiper	Year 9 Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Kerryn.Leiper@ed.act.edu.au">Kerryn.Leiper@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Garry Douglas	Year 10 Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Garry.Douglas@ed.act.edu.au">Garry.Douglas@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Jess Mathie	School Health Nurse	<a href="mailto:Jess.Mathie@ed.act.edu.au">Jess.Mathie@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Mark Baldwin	Youth Support Worker	<a href="mailto:Mark.Baldwin@ed.act.edu.au">Mark.Baldwin@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Anne Shaw	School Psychologist	<a href="mailto:Anne.Shaw@ed.act.edu.au">Anne.Shaw@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Nathan Hitchcock	Student Engagement Executive Teacher	<a href="mailto:Nathan.Hitchcock@ed.act.edu.au">Nathan.Hitchcock@ed.act.edu.au</a>
Lucy Sedlacek	Student Engagement Teacher	<a href="mailto:Lucy.Sedlaeck@ed.act.edu.ua">Lucy.Sedlaeck@ed.act.edu.ua</a>
Des Proctor	Student Engagement Teacher	<a href="mailto:Des.Proctor@ed.act.edu.au">Des.Proctor@ed.act.edu.au</a>

### **RESOURCES FOR REMOTE LEARNING**

1. **MOMENTS IN TIME** - Student voice is a key foundation of the *Future of Education* Strategy and Director-General, Katy Haire is encouraging school communities to record their observations, feelings and experiences through the collaborative project, Moments in Time. Each Thursday, a writing prompt is available to respond to, you will find all of the information on the [website](#).
2. **HOME LEARNING RESOURCES FRO STDUENTS & FAMILIES** - the ACT Education Directorate has established a collection of supports available here: [Resources to Support Home Learning](#).

Thank you for your patience and ongoing support, please feel contact the school should you wish to discuss any of this information or remote learning.

Kind regards

Shannon



Shannon Carnovale  
Deputy Principal  
Ph: (02) 6142 0700

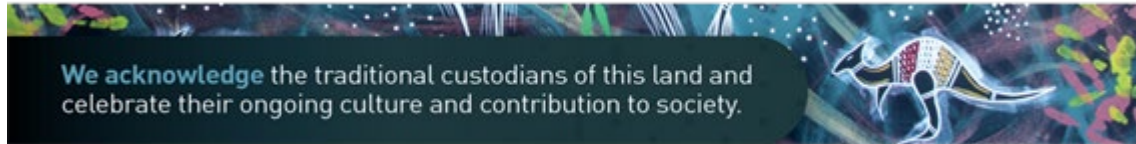
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8 May 2020