

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Carers, students and community members

Welcome to the new school year. It has been wonderful to start the week with students back on site after the many experiences of remote and flexible learning last year.

The achievements of our Year 12 students was outstanding and we wish them all the best with their future career paths.

Please take the time to read the information contained within this newsletter.

The next newsletter will be published in the coming fortnight.

All the best for the term ahead.

**Gail Hardman - Executive Principal**

### TERM DATES 2022

TERM 1	28th January - 8th April
TERM 2	26th April - 24th June
TERM 3	11th July - 16th September
TERM 4	3rd October - 20th December

### BELL TIMES 2022

(Primary, Secondary & Inclusive Ed)

Period 1	9.00 - 10:15
Period 2	10:20 - 11:35
Break 1	11:35 - 12.15
Period 3	12:15 - 1:30
Break 2	1:30 - 2:00
Period 4	2:00 - 3:15



Available from the General Office



**HATS**

**\$16  
each**



**Remember to  
bring your drink  
bottle!**

Seymour College acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the land and acknowledges and pays respect to their elders, past and present.

**OFFICE HOURS:** 8am - 4:30pm Monday - Friday

**ADDRESS:** 29-47 Stewart Street, Seymour.

**PHONE:** 03 5771 1300

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** seymour.co@education.vic.gov.au **WEBSITE:** www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au

# From the Health Centre

## POSITIVE CASE ?

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

If your child is not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, they can continue to attend school, but you should monitor for symptoms.

Students who show symptoms of COVID-19 cannot attend school and should get tested immediately and isolate until they receive a negative result.

Students should continue with twice-a-week rapid antigen testing on school days.

Students who have recovered from COVID-19 do not need to participate in surveillance testing for 30 days after their isolation period has ended.

For information on symptoms visit: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/symptoms-and-risks>

For more information on how to get tested visit: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/taking-test-covid-19>

If your child returns a positive result, your child has COVID-19.

- You must quarantine your child for seven days
- You must advise the school about the positive result
- Your child must stay home until their symptoms have resolved and they are well
- Everyone in your household is a close contact and must isolate for 7 days.

### Reporting your child's positive test

If your child was at school when they were infectious you need to report the positive case through the Student COVID-19 Test Portal or you can notify the school in writing or by phone.

You must also report your child's positive test to the Department of Health via the COVID-19 Positive Rapid

Antigen Test Self-Reporting Form or call centre on 1800 675 398.

Further information for languages other than English

- 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 translated written information about COVID-19, please visit: Translated information about COVID-19 | Coronavirus Victoria.

Doctors in Secondary Schools (DiSS) will be up and running from Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

To make an appointment please see Kirsty in the health centre.



## Masks

The school will not force your child to wear a mask. We understand some children will not be able to wear a mask.

Face masks are required for students in Grade 3 to Grade 6 unless an exception applies.

Exceptions include students with a physical or mental disability where their disability means it would not be suitable. Parent/carers of a student/s who meet the criteria for an exception must provide their approval in writing for their child/ren to not wear a mask to the school.

Our school will follow the directions of the Victorian Chief Health Officer and aims to provide the safest environment possible for students and staff. I strongly encourage you to discuss wearing masks with your children to reduce COVID-19 transmission risk for their health and for other children's health as well. When we all work together as a community, we will have the best chance to keep children healthy and reduce the risk of them catching and spreading COVID-19.

For children who are able to wear a mask, they can and should wear a mask. For those children who cannot on some days or all days, that is okay. Almost all children will be able to and we will help them learn and support them to use masks well, when indoors, throughout the school day.

# Visiting Seymour College

- The general office is open and if you attend in person you will need to be aware of the density limits in the office area. You will need to QR code in, and be double vaxed, socially distance and wear a mask over your nose and mouth if you enter the building.
- Parents and carers are welcome to enter the college grounds and continue to social distance. You will be unable to enter the buildings. If you are invited into a building by staff, you must QR code in, show your vaccination certificate, social distance from others and wear a mask over your nose and mouth.
- The usual bus gate is still closed due to building works and students are to enter on the footpath that runs past the general office building.



Please remember to call the school on 5771 1300 or email at [Seymour.co@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Seymour.co@education.vic.gov.au) or log your child's absence on COMPASS early in the morning if your child is going to be away or late for school so your child's absence can be recorded correctly.

For further information on the processes and procedures our school uses to record, monitor and follow-up student attendance and absences, please read our Attendance Policy <https://www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Attendance-Policy.pdf>

## PRIVACY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website <https://www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Privacy-Policy-1.pdf>

The Seymour College Complaints Policy can be found on our website at:

<https://www.seymourcollege.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Complaints-Policy-21-Aug-2019.pdf>

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

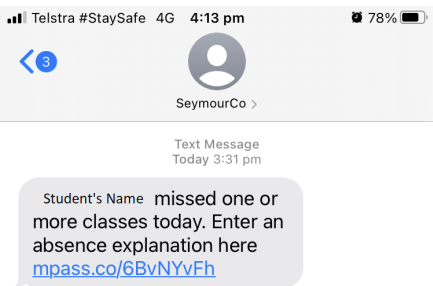
If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.


Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students and \$225 for eligible secondary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you would like to apply, please contact the school office on 5771 1300 and ask for an application form.

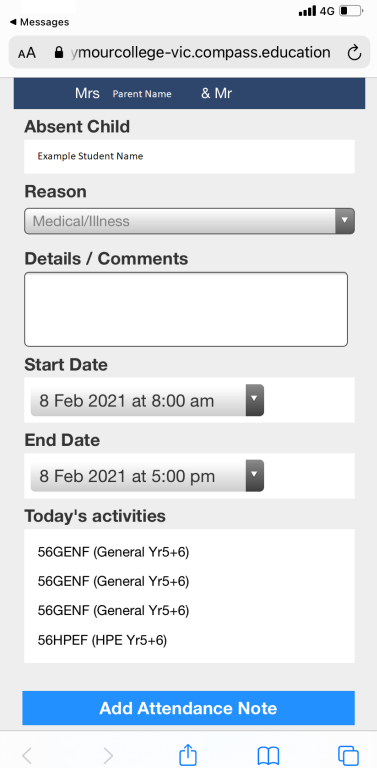
You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.






Seymour College will send a text message to parents/guardians at 10:30am and 3:30pm where there has been an unexplained absence. There is now a link included in the text message that allows parents/guardians to quickly and easily provide a reason for their child's absence.



## Canteen

Students can place lunch orders with the Junior School canteen Monday to Friday. Price lists are released each year and are available from the College website. To place a lunch order, enclose payment in an envelope or brown paper bag, clearly write the student's name and home group, and required lunch order items. Lunch orders are collected from the canteen by student monitors shortly before first break each day.

Students are also able to purchase a range of small snacks from the Primary canteen during second break.





**Discover the convenience of cashless with QuickCliq**


Click. Order. Complete.


**Canteens, Uniforms, Books & more.**  
**No cash. No problem!**  
**Try QuickCliq today!**


QuickCliq is an innovative online ordering system trusted by over 700 schools and thousands of parents across Australia. QuickCliq is a cashless solution that helps you manage your children's canteen orders, uniforms, books and even school fees from the comfort of your home or office.


Want to know the best thing about QuickCliq? It was designed by parents, for parents, so it's easy to use and incredibly intuitive!


## Why you will love using QuickCliq


- 


**One Family, One Account**  
 You will have one unique and secure login to manage all your children's orders, even if they attend different schools. QuickCliq saves you time and gives you complete visibility over your family's needs.
- 

**Cashless**  
 Tired of scrounging around for loose change every morning before your kids run off to school? With QuickCliq, lunch money is a thing of the past.
- 

**Healthy Alternative**  
 We're giving control back to you over your children's diets. By ordering their lunch ahead of time, you can ensure they are eating healthy and balanced meals.
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**Mobile Friendly**  
 QuickCliq was designed with mobile access in mind. Simply login to add credit and order, all from the convenience of your smartphone or tablet.
- 

**Plan Ahead**  
 We understand that ordering every week can be a hassle. Now you can order up to a month in advance, helping you to save time and budget for the month ahead.
- 

**Easy Set Up**  
 QuickCliq is free to set up and easy to use. Simply login, add credit to your QuickCliq wallet and you're good to go.
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**Local Support**  
 Something not working? No need to worry, simply phone our local call centre, from 7:30am - 4pm, Monday to Friday.

### Keen to try QuickCliq?

2019 is a year of rapid-growth for us. If we haven't yet reached your child's school, please get in touch and we'll ensure you can access all of QuickCliq's benefits shortly.

Questions?  
**Call: 1300 11 66 37**  
**Email: sales@quickcliq.com.au**





# Vaccinations

It's been really fantastic to see such excitement around the return to school and we want to keep it that way. A crucial part of that is getting as many students vaccinated as possible.

Alongside ventilation and other vital COVIDSafe steps such as regular rapid antigen testing, supporting as many students as possible to be vaccinated will help make our school as safe as possible.

Bookings for children aged 5 to 11 to receive the paediatric Pfizer vaccine are open and we encourage parents and carers to get your child vaccinated, if you haven't already done so.

The [Pfizer vaccine is safe and recommended for children](#). The vaccine will help protect your child from getting sick from COVID-19, help to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and help ensure kids can have more time at school and playing with their friends.

Vaccinations for children aged 5-11 years old are delivered at 2 appointments, 8 weeks apart. Children with specific medical vulnerabilities can access their second dose 3 weeks after their first dose.

If you'd like more information about this, you can read a recent statement from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI): <https://www.health.gov.au/news/atagi-update-following-weekly-covid-19-meeting-19-january-2022>

## To book an appointment

You can book at your local GP or pharmacy: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/booking>

You can also book at a family-friendly vaccination centre by calling the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398.

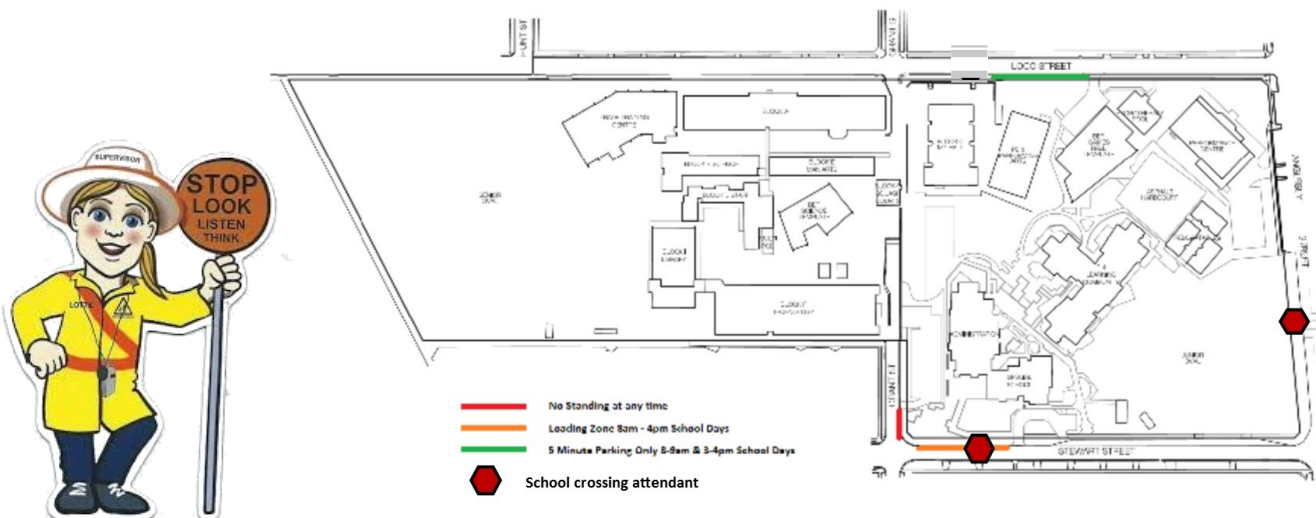
You can also make vaccination centre bookings for your children online, though you will need to use an email address that has not been used in the system before: <https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au/>

## Helping children to get their vaccination

Vaccination centres understand that children may feel anxious about vaccination or have other support needs. A range of options are available to help children get vaccinated. Please discuss your child's needs with the vaccination centre when you book an appointment.

Appointments are also available at Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisations.

☐ Find out more about vaccination for kids: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-information-children-and-teenagers>



**Child Safety Standards** – we are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This is our primary focus of our care and decision-making. Seymour College community has zero tolerance for child abuse.



## Department of Education and Training

2 Treasury Place  
East Melbourne Victoria 3002  
Telephone: 03 9637 2000  
DX210083

Dear Parents and Carers

This week's return to face-to-face learning has been a fantastic milestone for children, families, and schools, across Victoria.

The Department of Education and Training has worked closely with the Department of Health to ensure our schools are as safe as they can be.

This includes improving classroom ventilation with air-purifiers and supporting vital COVIDSafe steps, including the use of regular rapid antigen testing, mask wearing and physical distancing.

Thank you to parents and carers for supporting your children with these steps – they are not always easy, but are essential to help keep our schools safe and open, and to avoid the disruptions of home learning.

Helping your child to get vaccinated is one of the most important steps we can all take to give children direct protection against COVID-19.

Thanks to the hard work of school communities and families, almost 97% of all 12- to 18-year-olds have now had their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and more than 93% are fully vaccinated.

This is a phenomenal rate of protection for our older students, who couldn't have done it without the support of their families. We now want to see as many of our primary school students achieve that same level of protection.

For those who haven't yet done so, you are invited to book your child's vaccination as soon as possible.

COVID-19 vaccines have been tested and shown to be safe and effective in protecting against serious illness and reducing the likelihood of COVID-19 spreading.

High rates of vaccination also mean there is less chance of school closures – meaning more time for face-to-face learning, more time for fun activities and more time for children to be with their friends.

### How it works

Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are delivered at 2 appointments, 8 weeks apart.

The time between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose can be shortened to 3 weeks for children at higher risk of severe COVID-19 such as children with underlying medical conditions.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has [advised](#) that this includes children with:

- Down syndrome
- Cerebral palsy
- Muscular Dystrophy

- Severe disability that requires frequent assistance with daily living, which includes some autistic children and children with rare genetic disorders
- Heart disease and chronic lung disease, including those regularly hospitalised for asthma
- Cancer and survivors of childhood cancer

### How to book an appointment

There are lots of convenient options to get your child vaccinated, including state-wide vaccination clinics, your local GP or pharmacy, and pop-up clinics at many local primary schools.

You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

- online: [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine)
- by phone: [1800 675 398](tel:1800675398) (Coronavirus Hotline)
- In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or a [family-friendly vaccination centre](#)

### Need help?

Call the [Coronavirus Hotline](tel:1800675398) 1800 675 398: booking or vaccination questions

Need a translation? Refer to the [Information about COVID-19 vaccines in languages other than English](#)

### What to bring to the vaccine appointment

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

These resources can help you and your child prepare for the vaccination:

- [Needle phobia - The Melbourne Vaccine Education Centre \(MVEC\) \(mcri.edu.au\)](https://mcri.edu.au)
- [Tips to help a child afraid of needles and stop it becoming a phobia - ABC Everyday](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination social scripts - Amaze - Autism resource](#)
- [Sesame Street ABC of COVID vaccines](#)
- [The Australian Technical Advisory Group advice on the safety of the paediatric Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- The [Australian Technical Advisory Group 19 January update](#) for a table of medical conditions with increased risk.

### Extra support for children with disability or special requirements

Disability Liaison Officers and dedicated vaccination centres (pop-up clinics) are available to for parents and carers who need help for their child to get vaccinated.

For more information, refer to the [Vaccine information for people with a disability or special requirements](#).

Thank you again for your support in ensuring children and our schools are as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Fraser

Deputy Secretary

**School Education Programs and Support**

3 February 2022