

# COVIDSafe Plan

## Our COVIDSafe Plan

Business name:	Mount St Joseph Girls' College
Site location:	133 Maidstone Street, Altona
Contact person:	Kate Dishon - Principal
Contact person phone:	8368 2000
Date prepared:	<b>21.01.2021 (V7 updated 4.6.2021)</b>

For guidance on specific controls for essential assessments for VCE and VCAL, see page 6. Document updated 1.3.21.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<b>Hygiene</b>	
<b>Provide and promote hand sanitiser stations for use on entering buildings and other locations in the worksite and ensure adequate supplies of hand soap and paper towel are available for staff.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Infrastructure to ensure an adequate supply of hand sanitiser, liquid soap, paper towel and disinfectant is available. Each building should have hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes provided in entrances and occupied rooms.</li> <li>– Supply is being checked at the start and end of each day.</li> <li>– Cleaning contractor arrangements to include performing a thorough clean of all buildings' surfaces each day using a hospital-grade disinfectant.</li> <li>– Staff are being reminded to carefully place all paper towels, wipes and disposable personal protective equipment (PPE) in bins for cleaners to collect.</li> <li>– Bin liners are being replaced daily or as required and, if reused, disinfected.</li> <li>– Information has been provided to staff on washing hands or using hand sanitiser before and after moving between rooms or buildings, and after touching any doors.</li> <li>– Infrastructure to ensure an ample supply of &gt; 60% alcohol-based hand sanitiser is available.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">Infectious Cleaning Guidelines</a>.</p>
<b>Where possible, enhance airflow by opening windows and adjusting air conditioning.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Group activities have been rearranged to occur outdoors or in large indoor spaces where possible.</li> <li>– Staff are being encouraged to open windows and doors to promote airflow where possible.</li> <li>– Heating/split system filters are being cleaned on a regular basis to reduce the risk of airborne transmission.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>
<b>In areas or workplaces where it is required, ensure all staff wear a face covering and/or required PPE, unless a lawful exception applies. Ensure adequate face coverings and PPE are available to staff who do not have their own.</b>	<p><b>Please see the Department of Health website at <a href="http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au">www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au</a> for the latest face mask requirements as advice may change at short notice.</b></p> <p>As directed by the Victorian Chief Health Officer, from 11.59pm Thursday 27 May:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School staff and secondary school students aged 12 or older <b>must always wear a face mask at school</b>, including when attending an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, unless a <a href="#">lawful exception applies</a>.</li> <li>• Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school are not required to wear face masks when at school, or when attending an OSHC program.</li> <li>• Face masks are mandatory for all school staff and school students aged 12 or older on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles. This includes</li> </ul>

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
	<p>travelling to and from school on public transport or in a vehicle with others not from your household.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can.</li> </ul> <p><i>Staff and students unable to wear face masks</i> A combination of strategies are required to limit transmission of COVID-19. Where students and staff are unable to wear face masks, other transmission reduction strategies, such as physical distancing, can be enhanced, noting that any additional or enhanced strategies should be aimed at the whole school or class population. Staff members unable to wear face masks should avoid providing supervision or care of students with COVID-19 symptoms.</p> <p><i>More information</i> Schools must display information and signage at school entrances and in communal areas such as staffrooms as reminders for staff to wear face masks when not teaching. School staff should refer to the CECV's <a href="#">Guidance for the use of personal protective equipment in education</a> to determine when additional personal protective equipment (PPE) is required and for information on the correct and safe use of PPE.</p>
<p><b>Provide training to staff on the correct use and disposal of face coverings and PPE, and on good hygiene practices and slowing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).</b></p>	<p>All staff are being briefed on infection control precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Avoid people with fevers, sweats, chills or flu-like symptoms.</li> <li>– Use hand sanitiser between classes and after contact with commonly touched surfaces.</li> <li>– Maintain good cough etiquette.</li> <li>– Do not touch, kiss or hug others.</li> <li>– Use disinfectant wipes to clean computers and desks between different users and at the end of the day.</li> </ul> <p>If a person has been advised by the DHHS that they are considered a 'close contact' of someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they <b>must</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– notify the school or office, self-isolate and arrange to be tested</li> <li>– not return to work until test results obtained.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replace high-touch communal items with alternatives.</b></p>	<p>Briefings are being provided to staff on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To clean all commonly touched or shared equipment (indoors and outdoors) between each use, whenever possible.</li> <li>– To clean items that cannot be immersed in water: eg. electrical equipment with a 60% or greater alcohol wipe or hand sanitiser and air dry.</li> <li>– To clean items that can be immersed in water wearing heavy-duty gloves. Thoroughly scrub with hot water and soap or detergent. Then rinse in hot water (not &lt;70°C).</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">Infectious Cleaning Guidelines</a>.</p>

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<b>Cleaning</b>	
<p><b>Increase environmental cleaning (including between changes of staff) and ensure high-touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected regularly (at least twice daily).</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Staff are being encouraged to regularly wipe down commonly touched surfaces with disinfectant wipes between classes.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">Infectious Cleaning Guidelines</a>.</p>
<p><b>Ensure adequate supplies of cleaning products, including detergent and disinfectant.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Cleaning contractor arrangements to include performing a thorough clean of all buildings' surfaces daily using a hospital-grade disinfectant.</li> <li>– Staff are being encouraged to carefully place all waste and disposable PPE in bins for cleaners to collect.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<b>Physical distancing and limiting workplace attendance</b>	
<p><b>Establish a system to screen employees and visitors before accessing the workplace. Employers cannot require employees to work when unwell.</b></p>	<p>Upon arrival at the campus or office, staff, students, visitors and contractors to be reminded to electronically sign in and complete the covid declaration in the sign in process. They will be asked to confirm if they or anyone at home have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Experienced fever or flu-like symptoms, such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue.</li> <li>– Experienced shortness of breath.</li> <li>– Been in close contact with someone who has returned from overseas in the last 14 days.</li> <li>– Been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of covid-19.</li> </ul> <p>If upon arrival or during the day anyone exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, they will be immediately isolated. An incident report will be completed and the person encouraged to self-isolate until they can be tested and receive the result. Staff and visitors are being reminded to remain hypervigilant in maintaining good personal hygiene.</p> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>
<p><b>Establish a system for managing visitors and large events</b></p>	<p><u>Visitors - General</u></p> <p>Limit school access to outside visitors where possible.</p> <p>Visitors to school grounds must comply with physical distancing and face mask advice set out in this Operations Guide, and practise good hand hygiene.</p> <p><a href="https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/four-and-two-square-metre-rules">https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/four-and-two-square-metre-rules</a></p> <p><u>School Events</u></p> <p>A public event is defined as an organised public gathering for a common purpose, which is conducted on a one-off or periodic basis, open to members of the public, publicly announced or advertised, and may be subject to specific license, approvals or permits. Any activity that meets this definition will be required to comply with the <u>Public Events Framework</u>.</p> <p><u>Graduation ceremonies and other large gatherings (such as liturgies)</u></p> <p>If an event is held with external guests (parents/carers/visitors) then the overall attendee limit (inclusive of guests, staff and students) must be based on available floor space of the venue; with the density limit of one person per two square metres applied.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– If an event is held exclusively with students and staff from a single school outside of school hours, density limits do not apply to the venue or dancefloor, regardless of whether the event is held at school or at a hospitality venue, entertainment facility or community facilities. The school will ensure adequate space for physical distancing and ensure supplies and signage are displayed for attendees to practice hand hygiene</li> <li>– Adults and secondary students over the age of 12 years will wear face masks indoors and outdoors where social distancing can't be maintained</li> <li>– Singing during a liturgy is permitted within the guidelines contained in the <i>Use of woodwind instruments, singing, voice projection and dance</i> section of this guide.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Configure communal work areas so that there is no more than one worker per four square metres of enclosed workspace, and employees are spaced at least 1.5 metres apart. Also consider installing screens or barriers.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Common rooms in each campus or office will be inspected and seating arrangements staggered to promote physical distancing in line with one person for every 4 square metres.</li> <li>– Floor marking used to maximise physical distancing.</li> <li>– Workstations, classrooms and reception areas have been reviewed and, wherever possible, reconfigured or modified to reduce the risk of person-to-person or person-to-surface transmission.</li> <li>– Shields, barriers and signage will be considered as part of the control measures.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21 Health and safety advice for schools reference</a></p>

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Provide training to staff on physical distancing expectations while working and socialising (e.g. during lunchbreaks).	<p>Staff and adult visitors are being briefed to follow physical distancing rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Remain at least 1.5 metres from other individuals wherever possible, follow the “one person per 4 square metres” rule.</li> <li>– Only have one person in small work areas.</li> <li>– Avoid shaking hands, hugging or touching others.</li> <li>– Avoid large gatherings indoors.</li> <li>– Hold meetings outside in the open air if possible.</li> <li>– Always use good hand and cough/sneeze hygiene.</li> <li>– Eat lunch outside rather than indoors if possible.</li> <li>– Don’t share food or drinks in the workplace.</li> <li>– Practise the hygiene and cleaning protocols detailed in this plan.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">DHHS guidance on hygiene and physical distancing</a>.</p>
Review delivery protocols to limit contact between delivery drivers and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Visitors, contractors and delivery drivers are being advised to follow sign-in, physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning protocols detailed in this plan.</li> <li>– Designated delivery areas are being clearly signposted at entry points to minimise contact.</li> <li>– Staff and visitors are being reminded to remain hypervigilant in maintaining good personal hygiene, at all times.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>
Where relevant, ensure clear and visible signage in areas open to the general public that specifies maximum occupancy of the space, as determined by the ‘four square metre’ rule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Approved DHHS signage for schools and offices to be placed in clear and visible locations to promote physical distancing and good hygiene practices.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
<b>Record keeping</b>	
Establish a process to record the attendance of customers, clients, visitors, workplace inspectors and delivery drivers. This information will assist employers to identify close contacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Schools must keep a record of all staff, students and visitors who attend on-site for more than 15 minutes</li> <li>– Schools must record the name, contact details, date, and time of attendance at school, as well as the areas of the school that the person attended</li> <li>– At the beginning of each workday, administration staff to check that visitor, contractor, staff and student sign-in records are updated for contact tracing purposes.</li> <li>– The sign-in process includes reference to maintaining the confidentiality of records in accordance with the <i>Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014</i> (Vic.).</li> </ul> <p>Upon arrival at the school/office all visitors, contractors, staff and students are being asked to confirm that they have not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Experienced fever or flu-like symptoms, such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue.</li> <li>– Experienced shortness of breath.</li> <li>– Been in close contact with someone who has returned from overseas or a covid-19 hotspot, in the last 14 days.</li> <li>– Been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of covid-19</li> <li>– Been required to remain in isolation.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>
Provide guidance to staff on the effective use of the workplace OHS reporting system (where available).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– COVID-19 related reporting is communicated to staff via a staff meeting.</li> <li>– Staff are advised to notify the school principal or office manager remotely and complete an incident report form on the <a href="#">CEVN website</a>.</li> <li>– Medical advice and testing should be sought immediately.</li> <li>– <b>If a staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, this must be reported to the DHHS and WorkSafe Victoria by calling 13 23 60.</b></li> <li>– <b>Staff must not return to work until medically cleared to do so.</b></li> <li>– For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></li> </ul>

Guidance	Action to prepare for your response
<b>Preparing your response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case</b>	
<p><b>Prepare or update your business continuity plan to consider the impacts of an outbreak and potential closure of the workplace.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Coronavirus Reactive Closure: Steps for Principals</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Coronavirus: School Closure – Reactive Communications Pack</a>.</li> </ul> <p>The school has considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparing for absenteeism of staff due to quarantine or self-isolation while waiting for test results.</li> <li>- Key dependencies.</li> <li>- Delivery of essential services.</li> <li>- Communications during a critical incident.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Prepare to assist the DHHS with contact tracing and providing staff and visitor records to support contact tracing.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administration staff will be able to provide visitor, contractor, staff and student records from the period of 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms in a suspected case of COVID-19 to the DHHS. This will assist with contact tracing should someone test positive.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>
<p><b>Prepare to undertake cleaning and disinfection at your business premises. Assess whether the workplace or parts of the workplace must be closed.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case has been in the workplace, deep cleaning to take place in accordance with DHHS guidelines.</li> <li>- The school will follow directions provided by the DHHS regarding partial or full school closure.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">CECV Infectious Cleaning Guidelines</a>.</p>
<p><b>Prepare for how you will manage a suspected or confirmed case in an employee during work hours.</b></p>	<p>If a staff member or student is suspected of having COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- isolate the person immediately</li> <li>- notify the school/office leadership team</li> <li>- complete an incident report form</li> <li>- make arrangements for the person to travel home and to be tested. Advise them to self-isolate until the test result is received</li> <li>- continue with enhanced cleaning regime until the outcome of the case is known</li> <li>- if the case is positive, facilitate a ‘deep’ clean of the facilities as per the <a href="#">Infectious Cleaning Guidelines</a></li> <li>- notify anyone potentially at risk to self-isolate and to also be tested.</li> </ul> <p>For more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Coronavirus Reactive Closure: Steps for Principals</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Coronavirus: School Closure – Reactive Communications Pack</a>.</li> <li>- <a href="#">CECV Infectious Cleaning Guidelines</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Prepare to notify workforce and site visitors of a confirmed or suspected case.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow the <a href="#">Coronavirus Reactive Closure: Steps for Principals</a> and <a href="#">Coronavirus: School Closure – Reactive Communications Pack</a>.</li> <li>- For all suspected COVID-19 cases, the employer will inform all staff not in close contact to be vigilant about the onset of symptoms.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Prepare to immediately notify WorkSafe Victoria on 13 23 60 if you have a confirmed COVID-19 case at your workplace.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The school principal or delegate is aware of the requirement.</li> <li>- If a staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, it must be reported to WorkSafe Victoria by calling 13 23 60 or completing the <a href="#">online form</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Confirm that your workplace can safely re-open and workers can return to work.</b></p>	<p>In accordance with advice from DHHS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DHHS and WorkSafe Victoria must be notified that the workplace is reopening.</li> </ul> <p>For more information: <a href="#">School Operations Guide (Term 2 2021) Updated 3.6.21</a></p>

Guidance		Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<b>VCE/VCAL (including VET in secondary schools) assessments</b>		
Existing control measures listed above will apply with the following additional considerations:		
<b>Hygiene</b>		
<b>Replace high-touch communal items with alternatives (Incl music and performances)</b>	<p>These activities must be postponed or occur remotely at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The only exception to this is for students enrolled music studies for Units 3/4 VCE, the final year of a VCAL qualification or final year IB, where singing and playing wind and brass instruments can occur if Department of Health recommendations to reduce transmission risk are followed, including moving outdoors and physical distancing of 1.5m. Further advice on ways to reduce risk can be found in DH guidance: <a href="#">COVID-19 transmission from air-circulating, wind-blowing devices and activities.</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Cleaning</b>		
<b>Increase environmental cleaning (including between changes of staff) and ensure high-touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected regularly (at least twice daily).</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleaning service providers will be given a detailed schedule of essential assessments planned to be undertaken for VCE/VCAL with as much notice as possible, including the approximate number of students, areas occupied and timetable.</li> <li>Cleaning and disinfection of any shared equipment eg. desks between groups of students (where use of equipment in succession cannot be avoided) to occur during VCE/VCAL assessments and preparation.</li> <li>Where there is considerable contact with the floor during a dance/drama performance, cleaning and disinfection of the floor to occur between performances.</li> <li>Cleaning and disinfection of the floor to occur between music performances due to risk of the possibility of respiratory droplet spread with instruments.</li> <li>Music students will be actively reminded to undertake hand hygiene regularly, and before and after cleaning their instrument.</li> </ul>	
<b>Physical distancing and limiting workplace attendance</b>		
<b>Configure communal work areas so that there is no more than one individual per four square metres of enclosed workspace, and employees are spaced at least 1.5 metres apart. Also consider installing screens or barriers.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical distancing of 1.5 metres between all individuals on site to be maintained.</li> <li>Students will be spread out across as many separate spaces as practical for the assessment venue to reduce the number of students who may be deemed close contacts to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case.</li> <li>The maximum number of individuals in any one indoor space will not exceed the venue density quotient of one person per four square metres (including staff).</li> </ul>	

I acknowledge I understand my responsibilities and have implemented this COVIDSafe Plan in the workplace.



Signed

Name Kate Dishon

Date 21.01.2021