



## From the Director

8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians of Our Lady's Primary School,

Last week I wrote to you to extend to you my sincere thanks for the manner in which you and your children were meeting the challenges of learning from home under the restrictions put in place by the State Government. I also commended you upon the support you have given to your school's leadership and staff.

I am keenly aware that we are all awaiting an announcement from the Premier regarding the next stage of the State of Emergency, indicating to us when children can return to school. Like you, I anticipate Premier Andrews will make a statement in the very near future and Catholic Education Sandhurst will abide by whatever this statement dictates. If schools are to reopen, we are ready to ensure the transition back to school is a smooth one for every child. If learning from home is to continue for a period of time, then we must follow this direction, as it is reinforced by the advice of the Victorian medial authorities and it is aimed purely at keeping us all safe.

I understand that this situation presents difficulties for some families. However, I must be clear: if we are instructed by the Victorian Government to continue to work from home, then this is what schools will be expected to do. This approach can only be successful if we continue to work together. Parents and teachers are working hard to ensure the best learning can take place for all students - whether this be at school or at home. Online learning or face-to-face places considerable strain on all parties and we are all committed to doing our best.

Schools will continue to support the minimum number of students who need to be at school due to the need to keep essential services operating and supporting vulnerable children, but considerable strain will be placed on schools if the numbers of students increase dramatically.

I urge all families of Our Lady's Primary School to work together at this time by respectfully maintaining the practices required by the Government.

I once again offer parents my sincere thanks for all you have done to support Our Lady's Primary School in providing the best for your child.

Yours Sincerely

**PAUL DESMOND**

Director of Catholic Education Sandhurst