



ISSUE # 12  
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Merredin College Weekly Community Update



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## Message from the Principal.....

Dear Merredin College Family,

I want to thank you all for your support in what was one of the most unusual starts to a school term we have ever seen. Together, we have been able to make the best of this situation and ensure your child's safety and continuity of learning.

Yesterday, the State Government announced changes to education based on a review of current arrangements and updated health advice.

As of Monday, 18 May 2020 all students are expected to attend school, except for those students medically referred to learn from home.

This means students are either:

- at school;
- have a medical referral to learn from home; or
- recorded as absent if they do not attend.

Over the last three weeks we have seen 82% of our students return to the college, which has been fantastic. Concessions have also been made to make it easier for parents with students at the Merredin Residential College.

Current health advice states that schools remain safe for staff and students and should remain open. We want to make sure all children get the best education possible, which is why attending school is so important. We are here to make sure all children are learning and there's no doubt, schools are the best place for them to learn.

Residential students are now allowed to leave the to go home on weekends if collected by their parents. This is with the discretion of the Residential Manager.

For parents with medical advice that their child should not attend school, we will work with you in partnership with the School of Special Educational Needs: Medical and Mental Health to support your child's learning from home. If you feel your child is in this category, please do not hesitate to contact me and we will work together on next steps.

If your child does not attend school without a medical reason, they will be marked as absent and will not be provided a learning program.

The extra cleaning and hygiene practices implemented at the start of Term 2 will continue and as part of the social distancing measures, we continue to ask parents/carers to drop children at the school gate and not enter the school grounds.

The State Government will continue to make decisions based on the best health advice. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the college.

As always, take care

Leigh

## MORNING DROP OFFS AND AFTERNOON PICK UPS

As parents are still not permitted on site, staggered finish times to manage congestion will remain in place.

- Teachers will release students with Surnames A-J at 2.50pm and they will be available for pick up from this time.
- All other students, and those with secondary siblings, will be released at 3.00pm.
- Students will wait at the top of the 'Kiss and Drop' ramp for pick up and be directed down to parents by school staff.
- Parents of children that use car seats will be welcome to pull in to parking but we encourage all other parents to drive through and pick up at the ramp.
- Parents have been advised that they may need to loop through the car park and Throssell Road a few times.

This process may require some parents to loop through the car park and Throssell Road. We appreciate your support to help us implement these guidelines to keep our staff and students safe.

We appreciate your support to help us implement the guidelines set by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee to keep our staff and students safe.

## LATE STUDENTS AND COLLECTION OF STUDENTS DURING THE DAY

### Primary

Students who arrive late to school will need to sign in through the main office on Woolgar Avenue and will be directed or escorted to the primary part of the campus. Parents who need to collect students during the day will also have to register at the main office and students will be sent up for pick up. We apologise for the inconvenience this may cause but these changes are based on advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee.

### Secondary

Students are to continue signing in/out through Student Services, however this office is restricted to students only for the moment. If you wish to collect your child throughout the day please go to the main office or notify administration via phone or send your child with a signed permission note.

## CANTEEN

Our P&C Canteen is up and running for Term 2 but for pre-orders only. Primary students will need to place their orders in through the baskets provided in the classroom in the morning and there will be no window sales. Parents of students in early childhood classes are asked to put orders in communication books. We will send home order bags to Primary students next week, additional bags can be requested through communication books. Secondary students are asked to drop off orders as early as possible as fresh items will be limited.

## SECONDARY GOOD STANDING

With the probability of the school ball being rescheduled to later in the year, students are reminded that it is important for them to maintain their good standing if they wish to attend. Students who were previously unable to go now have the opportunity to regain their good standing and earn an invitation to the ball. Good standing can be obtained by achieving excellent attendance and behaviour and wearing the school uniform.

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Merredin College is currently seeking expressions of interest for a person interested in a casual/fixed term position assisting a small group of Educational Support students with manual arts projects. Welding and manual arts experience preferred. The position is 8.30am-3.00pm on Thursday and Fridays.

Successful applicants will require a Department of Education Working with Children check and Police screening.

The position would suit a retiree who enjoys hands on work who would see themselves as a good mentor for students.

To register your interest please contact Janelle Lane on 9041 0900.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

29 June	School Development Day
1 June	WA Day
3 July	Last day of term

## UNIFORM SHOP HOURS:

**Tuesdays - 8.30am-1pm**

**Wednesdays - 11am-2pm**

The Uniform shop is currently running a special of 10% discount on the following items:

- Sport jackets
- Sport pants
- Rugby jumpers
- Boys trousers
- Girls bootleg pants

## USEFUL LINKS:

### Uniform Order Form:

<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-ORDER-FORM-T1.pdf>

### Canteen Menu:

<http://merredincollege.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Copy-of-2020-Canteen-Menu.pdf>

**(WINTER MENU COMING SOON!!!)**

### Latest News & Events:

[www.merredincollege.wa.edu.au](http://www.merredincollege.wa.edu.au)