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Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Student Free Day Friday 21st February

**Newsletter No.2** 

# **Principal's Chat:**

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Members of the Kyneton High School Community,

In the last fortnight we have had the opportunity to meet with many parents/carers of students from Years 7, 11 and 12. The programme for the Year 7 Families Evening included a session on how to use the Xuno Parent Portal and a presentation from our guest speaker, Darren Pereira, about helping our students to develop a growth mindset that can set them up for success at school. We also had an informal chance to meet and chat over a tasty BBQ dinner. The feedback that I received from parents and carers was that students were settling in very well and have enjoyed their start to school.

Another important event held this week was the Years 11 and 12 Information Evening which, again, was well attended by parents and carers. There were presentations about our VCE and VCAL programmes, and Year 12 parents had the opportunity to hear from each of the subject teachers. Support for our students' academic outcomes is extremely effective when we are able to engage with parents and plan how we can work together. Lizzie Trembath and Kate Sims are our VCE/VCAL/VET Coordinators; parents/carers are very welcome to contact them at school if they have any questions about their student's learning programme or need support to ensure their student is able to achieve their best.

This year we have vacancies for five parent positions and two staff positions on School Council. We have included the call for nominations and notice of election pages for School Council at the end of this newsletter.

School Council is an excellent way to have a direct role in the governance of our school. We encourage you to consider becoming involved and taking the opportunity to have a say in the future of our school.

**Best Wishes** 

Ana Rees Executive Principal

As we go to print this week our swimming sports are taking place in Woodend. Pictured right is year 7 student Kora Richardson who brings home the trophy for the limbo event and a first in backstroke and relay. Congratulations Kora!

# **Captains Report**

Hello everyone,

Welcome back to another exciting year at Kyneton High School, I hope that everyone had a happy and safe holidays. I would like to introduce myself, Hayden Clapham, one of the School Captains for Kyneton High school for 2020.

I am happy to say that this school year has started off quite well, our first whole school assembly went really well, it was especially nice to see all the year 7s in the new school uniform wearing it with pride.

Our first whole school event is right around the corner. Swimming sports is such an amazing day, full of fun and excitement and I for one, cannot wait (Go Baynton!!!!)

I am really looking forward to being your school captain for 2020 and I can't wait for all that will be heading my way.

Hayden Clapham-School Captain

## Science Department Request

Bottles: Plastic 1.5L and 2L soft drink bottles

Year 8 science students will be making bottle rockets later in the term and we require plastic bottles.

Could you please collect the bottles and pass them on to your students' science teacher? Thank you very much,

Ms Bradford-Class Teacher



UPCOMING EVENTS		
February	2020	
Friday 21st	Curriculum Day-Student Free Day	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Student Photos	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 7 Cricket/Tennis/Volleyball	
March	2020	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> –Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Camp Adanac-CYC	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Labor Day -Public Holiday	
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 9 Campaspe Excursion	
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9/10 Applied & VCAL Grand Prix Excursion	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 8 Cricket/Tennis/Volleyball	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Division Swimming	
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Interviews	
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Immunisations	
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Athletics Carnival	

# **Year 9 Humanities**

Last week Ross Cornell, a registered bee keeper, gave a presentation to two Year 9 classes on bee keeping practices. Here is what two students had to say about it:

"In Year 9 Humanities we have been learning about food production and last Tuesday Mr Cornell brought in some honey, honeycomb, bees and their boxes. He also brought in a smoker and suits to show us how bees make their honey. He showed us the lifecycle and how they collect their pollen. We watched a slideshow that showed us where is most optimal for the boxes so that they can collect the honey. We all enjoyed learning about bees

and their lifecycle and the honey was delicious!"

Conor Doyle and Lachlan Thompson-Year 9



Ross Cornell imparted his knowledge of Bee keeping to our year 9 Humanities students this week.

# Year 11/12 Information Evening Report

A very special thank you to the many families who attended our Year 11 and 12 VCE/VCAL Information Sessions on Tuesday Evening. Lots of information was provided by the Senior Years Team and Senior Teachers about these two very important years for our students. For those families who were not able to attend, please Xuno me so that I can forward some information to you.

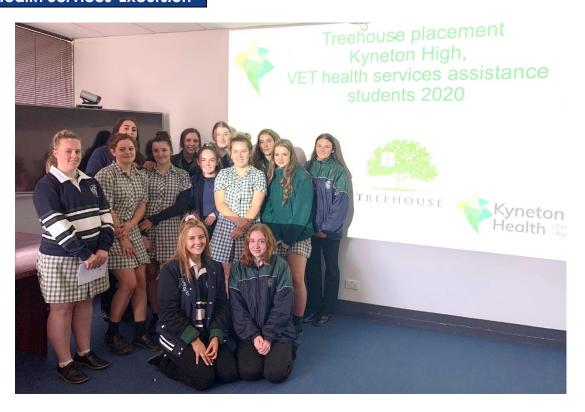
I would also like to thank our hardworking Teachers and Year Level Leaders for their dedication in organising these sessions and being available on the evening to support our students and families.

A reminder regarding this year's Debutante Ball that we require a minimum of 20 couples to proceed with the event. Students interested in participating will need to get their responses to Jodie Cox as soon as possible.

With thanks.

Annette Brown
on behalf of the Senior Years Team

# **VET Health Services-Excursion**



The students studying VET Health Services Assistance had the opportunity on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of February to visit the Treehouse Program run by Kyneton Health.

The Treehouse Program is a free respite day service for dementia patients. Dora the program leader explained to the students what dementia is and how the program supports its clients and their carers. The program currently operates 4 days a week and with a demand for places the program may extend to five days a week. The program is client focussed and its activities reflect the needs of its daily clients. Thank you to Dora and Kyneton Health for taking time to educate us about the Treehouse Program and show us around.

Kate Sims-Classroom Teacher

# **Senior Years News**

# **Bendigo Campus Talk and Tours 2020**

La Trobe Bendigo is offering interested students the chance to check out the Bendigo campus and accommodation.

This is a chance to meet with one of their friendly team to have your course and career questions answered as well as enjoying a walking tour of their biggest regional campus.

Registrations are now open for personalised consultations and tours of the Bendigo campus these school holidays.

https://www.latrobe.edu.au/events/all/bendigo-campus-talk-and-tours-2020

Elizabeth Trembath-Senior School Coordinator

# **Conveyance Allowance Update**

The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. If you answer 'yes' to <u>all</u> of the following questions, your student/s may be eligible for conveyance allowance –

- 1) Does your student attend their nearest school appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible?
- 2) Does your student live 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school attended?
- 3) Does your student travel by public transport, private car or private bus because there is no free school bus service available?

Conveyance allowance might also be available to students travelling on the free school bus service if they reside more than 4.8km from the nearest school bus stop. If you answer 'yes' to questions 1) and 2) above, you may be eligible.

Please contact the office for an application form. Forms must be completed and returned to the school no later than Wednesday 11/3/20. There is no need to complete an application form if you have already applied and received conveyance allowance from us.

Tracey Madden-Business Manager

# Youth Group Scavenger Hunt

Every Tuesday during school terms MRSC runs a youth group for 12-18 year olds in the Kyneton Youth Space (located in the portable behind the town hall) from 4:00 - 6:00pm.

On the 25th of February we will be holding a massive scavenger hunt. Challenges will be held around town, with prizes and food provided!

Bring a team or you can come by yourself and a team will be provided! (See flyer attached).

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Kyle in the equity office!

#### TECHNICAL TRAINING NEED AT HIGH SCHOOL

Representations are to be made to the board of secondary school inspectors when they visit Kyneton on March 19, that the Kyneton High School become a multi-purpose school to provide technical training to grade 2.

This was revealed by Mr. H. T. Dettmann when speaking at the Kyneton Agricultural Society meeting on Saturday morning.

#### **HOBBY WING**

Mr. Dettmann said that the manual arts wing at the High School would be in operation shortly, but the people were disappointed to know that this new wing would be only a "glorified hobby sort of arrangement."

However the matter had been discussed at the recent Kyneton High School Advisory Council meeting, when it was stated that the board of senior inspectors would be here in March, and would listen to proposals to try and make it a technical school to take more advanced classes.

He said he understood there are some multi-purpose technical schools in Victoria, and as Kyneton was a rural district where most of the children attending the school did not go for university training, they wanted something to be useful for them in later life.

Most of them wanted to know how to build a shed, or some training in welding and some other trades.

He said that he thought that it would be possible to get the classes brought up a bit higher where the pupils could be taught the rudiments and essentials of various trades.

"It's much easier to practice them after they have been taught in the proper way," he said, and added he would certainly ask the inspectors if Kyneton could get a multi-purpose technical school.

"We don't expect a first-class technical school, because there is one at Castlemaine for tradesmen and apprentices," he said, adding that those wishing to follow trades had to go there.

## **FARM KNOWLEDGE**

However, he considered there should be a more intermediate course at Kyneton where boys who, after leaving school would go onto farms, would be able to learn enough to use the appliances used on a farm.

He said that he had spoken to the headmaster of the High School, and the president of the Chamber of Commerce would attend when the inspectors were present in Kyneton.

Mr. W. Copland Mackie said that he thought the Agricultural Society should support the move, as he felt it was something for which Kyneton should fight very hard.

He instanced that the society had done something for Kyneton and district with the shearing classes, which had been of great benefit and considerable interest to the people.

Mr. Mackie said mention had been made of the Castlemaine Technical School, but the Education Department had done nothing regarding technical training in Kyneton as far as getting the children from this district to that school.

He knew of some children from Kyneton going there, and it was a big expense for the parents, as the children had to board at Castlemaine.

Mr. Mackie concluded by saying that he thought the society should press for the fullest possible technical training being given in Kyneton.

It was decided that the president of the society (Mr. H. J. Miller) should represent the society at the meeting with the inspectors.

\*\*Kyneton Guardian 9th March 1957\*\*

# **KHS Mobile Phone Policy**



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# **Mobile Phones-Student Use Policy**

## **Purpose:**

To explain to our school community the Department's and Kyneton High School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other mobile personal devices during school hours.

# Scope:

This policy applies to:

- 1. All students at Kyneton High School and,
- 2. Students' personal mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches which are brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

## **Definitions:**

**A mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches."

# **Policy:**

Kyneton High School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Kyneton High School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored in their locker during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

# Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's <u>Mobile Phones Policy</u> issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Kyneton High School during school hours, **including lunchtime and recess**, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

## Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Kyneton High School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Kyneton High School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to the Kyneton High School's Personal Property Policy OR the Department's Personal Goods policy.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Kyneton High School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Kyneton High School students are required to store their phones either in their lockers or handed into the school General Office to be placed in a lockable cupboard.

#### **Enforcement**

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Kyneton High School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement polices: *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and *Bullying* policies.

At Kyneton High School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- during exams and assessments

## **Exceptions**

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
  - o Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
  - o Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal in accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones Policy.

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's Mobile Phones Policy are:

## 1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (eg project based learning or education outside the classroom)	Unit of work, learning sequence
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan

#### 2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record

#### 3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

## Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Kyneton High School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

#### **Exclusions**

This policy does not apply to:

- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- iPads and all other personal devices
- Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. work experience
- Students who are undertaking VET off-site

#### RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Code of Conduct, Personal Property, Bullying (accessible on the school website)
- Mobile Phones Department Policy
- [the below are optional references to Department policy]
- Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items
- Personal Goods Department policy

#### **REVIEW PERIOD**

This policy was last updated December 2019 and is scheduled for review February 2022.

# NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of
Kyneton High School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020

The ballot will close at 4.00pm on Thursday 12th March 2020

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership category	
Parent member	

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2020
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2022

Number of positions:	5
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# Membership category DET employee member

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2020
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2022

Number of positions:	2
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# Membership category Student member

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2020
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2022

Number of positions:	2

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling

for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Principal signature	
Thoken	



**SCHOOLS** 

# **School Council Elections - Information for Parents**

#### WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

#### WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

#### WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

#### DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### **HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?**

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

#### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

#### **REMEMBER**

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- · Be sure to vote in the elections.

For further information, please contact the school principal.

# Fact sheet No 5. Nominating and voting others to the Student member category

#### What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. School councils are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Orders and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

#### What are some of the duties of a school councillor?

The school council has particular functions in setting and monitoring the school's direction.

School councils have three main responsibilities:

**Finance**: overseeing the development and expenditure of the school's annual budget and ensuring proper records are kept of the school's financial operation.

Strategic planning: participating in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan.

**Policy development and review**: developing, reviewing and updating selected policies that reflect a school's values and support school's broad direction outlined in its strategic plan.

Other key functions of school councils may include:

raising funds for school related purposes
maintaining school grounds and facilities
entering into contracts
reporting annually to the school community and the Department
creating interest in the school in the wider community

representing and taking the views of the community into account

regulating and facilitating after-hours use of school premises and grounds

operating a children's service at the school.

#### Who is on the school council?

For all schools with a student cohort of year 7 and above, there are four possible categories of school council membership:

A mandated elected Parent member category

A mandated elected **DET** employee member category

A mandated elected **Student** member category (2 positions) – members of this category are enrolled at the school in year 7 or above

An optional Community member category.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

#### Why is Student membership so important?

Students have a unique perspective on learning, teaching and schooling and having Student members on school council allows students to have a say in the future direction of their school and ensures student input into decision making.

Mandating student representation on secondary school councils will assist in the development of students' skills, including leadership skills and communication skills.

#### Do candidates need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them in order to perform their duties as a councillor.

Student members are encouraged to acquire this knowledge by attending the Department's free face-to-face Improving School Governance school council training to support them to undertake their role. Training is also available online.

#### How do I nominate a candidate for a position on council?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the start of Term 1 each year.

Students can arrange for a student in Year 7 or above to nominate them as a candidate or they can nominate themselves for the Student category.

Once the nomination form is completed, it should be returned to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. A Nomination Form Receipt will be issued following receipt of the completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### How do I know which students are standing for election?

If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacant positions, an election process will be held.

Student names will be listed in random order on the voting slip.

The principal may invite candidates to prepare a brief statement to be distributed with each ballot paper.

**Note:** Voting for student leaders at the school, such as school captains and SRC representatives is a distinct and separate process to voting for Student school council members.

For further information, please contact the school principal.

NB: Nomination forms for students and DET Members can be collected from the General Office.

# SCHEDULE 5A: SELF-NOMINATION FORM FOR PARENT MEMBER

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a Parent member on the (school	ool cound	cil)
Name		
Residential Address:		
Contact phone (mobile or landline):		
Email:		
I am the parent/guardian of		
who is/are currently enrolled at this school.		
Statement	Yes (Mark with an x)	No (Mark with an x)
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training and not engaged in work at and for the school:		
am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. hereby declare that I am not:		
an undischarged bankrupt of unsound mind currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 200	04.	
Signature of Candidate		
Date:		
You will be notified when your nomination has been received.  Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council elected in the information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your person		

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:		

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.



# **EVERY DAY COUNTS**

### SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your teenager's education.

Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

## SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR TEENAGER IS THERE

# Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE & VCAL, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with falling behind in subject topics and assessment tasks, and lead to fewer subject choices and may impact on achievement in years 11 and 12 and post-school pathways.

## **Getting in early**

It's never too late to improve attendance. Even in the middle years, when school can seem the most challenging for students and when attendance rates can be at their lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. **Every day counts**.

Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

# IN VICTORIA SCHOOL IS COMPULSORY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6 – 17 YEARS

### **Student Absences**

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

**Family holidays** - It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure that you talk to your school in advance, and work with them to develop an absence learning plan.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your teenager have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission or skip out of school during the day. There can be many reasons for truancy; the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences can effect academic performance, DET's statistics show that unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

**School refusal** - School refusing children experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school. If you are experiencing this situation, please inform the school and advice and support can be provided.

# BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR 1 DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING 1.5 YEARS OVER 13 YEARS OF SCHOOL

## If your teenager is away

If for any reason your teenager must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

Inform the school via your teen's Form/Home Room teacher or Year Level Coordinator

Find out what work your teenager needs to do to keep up.

Develop an absence learning plan with your teenager's teacher and ensure they complete the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your teenager must miss school, speak with your home group teacher or year level coordinator as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your teenager's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parent/s.

If you're having attendance issues with your teenager, please let the year level coordinator, wellbeing coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your teen to school every day.

## TOP ATTENDANCE TIPS FOR PARENTS

Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support

Remember that every day counts

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness

Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day

Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea

Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term

Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

# **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/studentmanagement/attendance/Pages/improveattendance.as

# **Billion Rising Dance Opportunity**

Would you like to learn a fun hip hop dance for International Women's Day (5/3/2020)?

We are looking for students from Kyneton High School to attend 2 workshops and participate in a performance for International Woman's Day (IWD).

If you are interested please speak to Andrea (School Nurse) in the Uniform Shop area Monday or Tuesday at recess or lunch time.

Andrea Scott–KHS School Nurse

MOUNT ALEXANDER FAMILY
VIOLENCE PREVENTION
NETWORK &
MACEDON RANGES FAMILY
VIOLENCE NETWORK
PRESENT:

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020 A performance of the international 1 Billion Rising Dance at Women's Health Loddon Mallee's IWD breakfast in Bendigo and at Theatre Royal in Castlemaine.

Free bus transport provided for dancers with pickups in Kyneton & Castlemaine

THURSDAY 5TH MARCH





# WANT TO JOIN IN?

FREE LESSONS IN CASTLEMAINE @ MOVEMENT ZONE STUDIO, CAMPBELL STREET.

7.30PM-8.30PM WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 7.30PM-8.30PM WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH



12.30PM-1.30PM TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

OR GO TO VIMEO.COM/MOVEMENTZONE AND FOLLOW THE VIDEO TUTORIAL TO LEARN AT HOME OR WITH FRIENDS/COLLEAGUES

other questions?







EMAIL - ADMIN@CENTRALVICPCP.COM.AU

PHONE - 5472 5333

