



Planning for Online Learning – Information for Parents

Dear Parents,

The Government's latest announcement is for full school closure, and Mount Albert Grammar School has plans for learning to continue via our digital services.

Our objective will be to continue learning and, if possible, maintain some degree of routine, normality and structure to each of the days the school is required to be closed.

The Ministry of Education has stated that school holidays start early from 30 March to 14 April inclusive. This means that on Thursday, 26 March and Friday, 27 March we will be teaching our students remotely. After this two-week holiday period we will return to online learning until the government advises otherwise.

It is **not** intended to live stream lessons but rather run an online shortened timetable for all students across what are our usual MAGS timetabled lessons. Below you can see what this will look like. These amended times will create a shortened version of our usual five-period day. It is intended that students should ensure that they complete work set in a timely fashion across the day and use the structured check-in / lesson times to communicate with their teacher(s) via Google Classroom and/or OneNote if needed.

The Sports Department has set up a MAGS Sport Google Classroom that students can access through the code '5d2tob7'. It has links and information about general fitness and sport-specific skills that students can develop while practising physical distancing.

Lesson & Activity Times	Junior School Y9 & 10	Senior School Y11-13
Period 1 9.00-9.25		
Period 2 9.30-9.55		
AMP 10.00-10.15	Well-being focus Check your Year Group Google Classroom Page for the day's activity and messages	Well-being focus Check your Year Group Google Classroom Page for the day's activity and messages
Break 10.15-10.35	Physical challenge - take tips from your Year 9 and 10 Google Classroom Pages and log your progress fitness challenge. Then take a break!	
Period 3 10.40-11.05		
Period 4 11.10-11.35		
Period 5 11.40-12.05		
Lunch 12.05-12.50		
12:50 to 1:15	Sustained Silent Reading Take a break from your screen and read. Make sure your devices are turned off and you are in a comfortable place with no distractions.	Could continue with set work, extra reading and exercise throughout the afternoon
Co-Curricular 1:20 Onwards Practice & Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent game-related play (e.g. basketball, netball, football, archery practice) Independent specific training for your sport or cultural group, cardio-vascular fitness, yoga, stretching, singing practice, etc. Online connection with your committees and groups (Interact, D&D, Health Committee, SAGA, etc) 	
After-school	Complete additional assignments and projects from the day!	

As a school, we appreciate that each family will be operating under different circumstances with regards to access to IT equipment. Further, some families with parents working from home and with children at different schools may have competing demands for the same equipment.

To assist with this, we are encouraging students to be online at the adjusted times of when their lessons would usually be. While this may not always be possible, we expect that as much as possible of the work set will be completed. Your children will need your support and guidance to organise their time effectively, especially if your home circumstances mean it is not possible for your child to consistently complete the work set during the timetabled lesson period.

Students should avoid emailing their teachers directly and instead they should use Google Classroom and/or OneNote as their mechanism for communicating and asking questions. This will best enable our teaching staff to provide feedback and further instruction during this time. To support your child's learning, you can monitor their Google Classroom by checking their work when they are completing it – there is no need for you to be added to their school account.

It is anticipated that many of our students will also need emotional support as they adjust to this disruption to their normal patterns of living and reduction of interactions with friends. While undoubtedly families will also find new things to learn and do together during this time, for each of us this will be a challenging time to be a parent. This developing situation is creating quite a lot of anxiety for children, friends and family. The following links may provide some useful advice on how we can look after ourselves and each other, and it may be worth sharing this information with your children.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/get-help/covid-19/>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/>

https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronavirus