

University of Canberra High School Kaleen

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for your support over the past few weeks as we have transitioned to teacher-led remote learning as part of the ACT's health response to COVID-19.

Remote learning will continue for all students in year 7-10 during the first four weeks of term 4, which begins on Tuesday 5 October.

The ACT Government and Chief Health Officer will be working over the school holidays to develop further plans for a phased return to on campus learning in term 4 when it is safe to do so. Any plans will of course be completely subject to health advice, including in relation to case numbers and vaccination rates and taking into account further consultation with students, families and staff.

While I am sure this news will be disappointing to some, the Chief Health Officer has made this decision based on what we know about the COVID-19 outbreak in our community.

The health and safety of students, staff and their families, is our number one priority.

During remote learning, our school will remain open for:

- vulnerable children
- children whose parents or carers cannot work from home, and
- children whose parents are working from home and cannot reasonably provide care whilst working.

Those students will be supervised to access the same remote learning program as their classmates.

From Monday 20 September all children in the ACT aged 12 years and over will be able to book a Pfizer vaccination appointment at an ACT Government clinic. There are two vaccines approved for 12 to 15-year-olds in Australia, with Pfizer available from participating GPs already, and Moderna expected to be available from participating pharmacies from 20 September.

You can find more information about the vaccination program and how to book on the ACT Government's COVID-19 website.

Please remember that the most important thing you can do is support your child's wellbeing. Keep in mind that children can express their feelings in many ways. I encourage you to speak openly with your children about how they are feeling. We have also compiled a range of useful [wellbeing resources](#) for students and families that may help you with these conversations.

If your child requires extra help and assistance, school psychologists are available through telehealth. To access the service, a booking request may be made via an [online form](#) or by calling [6205 1559](tel:62051559) between 9:00am and 4:30pm.

You can find more information, including frequently asked questions about remote learning, by visiting [COVID-19 school arrangements](#). You can keep up to date with the latest health information, advice and resources on the ACT's COVID-19 website www.covid19.act.gov.au

Please contact us if you have any feedback about remote learning, or if you have any concerns. Please also let us know if you require a loaned device or internet access.

I hope your family is able to spend some time together and enjoy the upcoming school holidays.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Mowbray', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Mowbray
Principal