



Caulfield
JUNIOR COLLEGE

École franco-australienne
de Melbourne



Dear parents, carers and guardians

I am writing with some important updates about ensuring the safety, health and wellbeing of the children, families and staff in our service during the winter season.

As you would be aware, influenza (flu) cases have been rising across Victoria and COVID-19 cases persist, so we want to protect our children and staff during this time.

If children are unwell, they are required to stay at home, unless those symptoms are known to be caused by an underlying health condition or medication. This will help our service keep other children, staff members and their families as safe as possible. Viruses spread quickly when there is close contact and cause many of the diseases that are common among young children — especially when a child is coughing and sneezing.

Children who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, should undertake a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) or a PCR test and quarantine at home until they receive a negative result. As flu and colds are becoming more widespread, even with a negative COVID-19 result, children and staff should avoid attending the service until their symptoms resolve and they are well again.

To help us all stay well this winter, the Victorian Government is making it easier than ever to get an annual influenza (flu) vaccine by providing free vaccinations throughout the month of June. With case numbers rising so quickly we encourage you and your family to get vaccinated to be protected during the colder months.

Free flu shots for all children aged 6 months and over will be offered between 1 June and 30 June 2022, so you can contact your GP or community pharmacy to ask about receiving the free vaccination.

Disability Liaison Officers (DLOs) help people with a disability access these services. Contact a DLO to assist. Accessible options and supports are available for children who may have mild anxiety about vaccination or minor behavioural issues, as well as children with disabilities or other specific access needs.

Along with getting a flu shot, keeping up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations will help you to stay well this winter. Children aged 5 and over can have a flu vaccination and COVID-19 vaccination at the same time. If they are currently sick with the flu or COVID-19, wait until they feel better to have their flu vaccination.

At this challenging time, we are doing everything we can to provide continuity of service to our families and deliver programs such as funded kindergarten. We appreciate your understanding at this time as staff affected by the flu or COVID-19 need to rest and get well. This means some programs may not be able to operate as normal for short periods and, in some instances, alternative arrangements may be required.



Education
and Training



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We continue to work with the Victorian Department of Education and Training to operate in a COVIDSafe way and to ensure that every effort is made to ensure children and staff are safe as possible. Important measures have been implemented including ventilation, vaccination and vital COVIDSafe steps such as regular hygiene, physical distancing, and the provision of Rapid Antigen Tests.

Thank you again for your ongoing cooperation and support during this time.

The Leadership Team