

Attention: Grade 6 Families

## Updated Transition Information

Dear Grade 6 families,

As you are likely aware, the COVID-19 Pandemic has impacted our ability to run our normal transition program, including school tours, EXCEL testing and interviews. To support families, we are making the following changes to planned events along with the introduction of some new activities:

**Facebook Live:** Our Principal will be running two Facebook Live events so that parents can hear about the school. You can post questions in the comments which will be addressed during the event. These will be held:

- Thursday 7 May 11.00 am
- Tuesday 12 May 4.30 pm

**Speak to the Principal:** Our Principal and members of the transition team are available to speak to you via phone or video conference (Microsoft Teams or Zoom) to discuss transition and answer any questions that you have about the College. You are also welcome to organise a group call with friends. Call the office on 8770 6700 to arrange an appointment.

**Out of Zone Applications:** Our school zone is available on [www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au](http://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au). This website hosts the most up-to-date information about Victorian school zones for 2021. Students residing in this zone are guaranteed a place at our school, which is determined on the basis of your permanent residential address. The Department provides guidance through the School Placement Policy to ensure that students have access to their designated neighbourhood school and the freedom to choose other schools, subject to facility limitations. To register an out of zone application for Patterson River, along with the reasons according to this placement policy go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/zone2020](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/zone2020).

**EXCEL Academic Testing:** We are postponing our testing until students return to onsite learning. We are aware that some schools are moving to online testing for their specialised programs, however given that our EXCEL Academic program is based on the development of transferable skills for high potential students we have decided to postpone our testing. These skills include group work, leadership, problem solving, emotional intelligence and critical thinking, many of which will be very difficult to assess through an online test. Our program goes beyond developing the literacy and numeracy skills of students who are already strong in this area, hence our decision to delay testing. Delaying the testing will also allow students to have a more enjoyable experience and better showcase their skills on the day.

### Q When will testing be?

Testing will likely take place in early Term 3.

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79 – 98 Eel Race Road, Seaford VIC 3198

PO Box 2664, Seaford VIC 3198

P 03 8770 6700 E [patterson.river.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:patterson.river.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)



[www.prsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.prsc.vic.edu.au)



**Q. How do I register interest?**

Go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/excelacademic](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/excelacademic)

**Q. How do I find out more?**

Go to our website or contact our EXCEL Program Manager, Pravi Chandra via [Pravikash.Chandra@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Pravikash.Chandra@education.vic.gov.au)

**Q. Will my child be able do the testing even if they have not completed an application for Patterson River?**

Yes, our testing will be open to all Grade 6 students, even if you have indicated an enrolment at another secondary school. It is important that you register so that we can contact you.

**EXCEL Sport Testing:** We are postponing our testing until students are able to return to schools. In addition to raw sporting performances, our program is based on the development of leadership, teamwork and coaching skills. It is therefore essential that we allow students to demonstrate these skills as part of the testing program.

**Q. When will testing be?**

Testing will likely take place in early Term 3.

**Q. How do I register interest?**

Go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/excelsport>

**Q. How do I find out more?**

Go to our website or contact our EXCEL Sport Leader, Ando Allan via [ando.allan@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:ando.allan@education.vic.gov.au)

**Q. Will my child be able do the testing even if they have not completed an application for Patterson River?**

Yes, our testing will be open to all Grade 6 students, even if you have indicated an enrolment at another secondary school. It is important that you register now so that we can contact you once the testing date is confirmed.

**Scholarship Interviews:** Interviews will also be postponed until students are able to return to schools. You are able to register your interest via [surveymonkey.com/r/scholarships2021](http://surveymonkey.com/r/scholarships2021).

**School Tours:** School tours are unlikely to resume until later this term / early next term. Please take the opportunity to participate in a Facebook Live event or organise a call with our Principal or member of the transition team (see above).

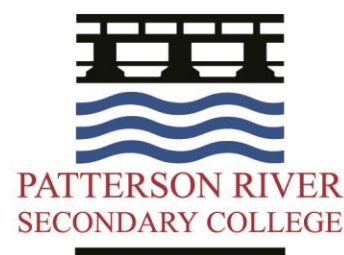
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## Updated Department of Education and Training Transition Key Dates

**From Week 1, Term 2 2020** Primary schools to distribute Transition Information Pack.

**Friday 29 May 2020** Parents return Application for Year 7 Placement 2021 forms to primary schools

**Friday 7 August 2020** Secondary schools notify primary schools of the names of all students who have been accepted into Year 7.

**Wednesday 19 August 2020** Primary schools notify parents/carers of Year 6 students of placement offers, in writing.

**Thursday 20 August 2020** Parents/carers can commence lodging non-placement appeals with secondary schools

**Thursday 20 August 2020** Secondary schools may distribute enrolment, orientation, and other transition information to parents/carers of future Year 7 students.

**Monday 31 August 2020** Closing date for parents/carers to lodge a written non-placement appeal with secondary schools

**Friday 11 September 2020** Secondary schools notify all parents in writing of the outcome of non-placement appeals by this date.

**Tuesday 8 December 2020** Secondary schools host an Orientation Day for Year 6 students.

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