

Subject: Maples Early Learning and Covid-19 – We're in this together

Dear Families,

The Victorian Government have announced that the current metropolitan Melbourne lockdown measures will be extended by a further two weeks until Thursday, 2 September 2021.

Covid-19 is impacting all of us – as individual and as communities – in unprecedented ways. At this stage, we have been informed there will be **no restrictions** on children attending childcare. We would like to reassure you that we are here for you, and **our Centres will remain open to all families during this time.**

During this time, we hope that you will continue to send your child to Explorers as usual. However, we would like to let you know that the Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) has announced additional allowable absences for families who receive Child Care Subsidy (CCS), which are in addition to the normal 42 days per financial year. For more information, please visit the [DESE website](#)

The safety of our Maples Staff and Maples Families is our number one priority and we will continue to implement relevant Government health advice. We will also continue to be proactive in ensuring that all our Centres are thoroughly cleaned daily, hand sanitisers are available, temperature check points are used, and mask are worn by families and visitors.

We understand that getting vaccinated will make a difference. We will encourage and support our staff to make an informed decision to get vaccinated when they are able to. We understand that this is an emotive topic and don't expect everyone to share the same view. However, Maples Early Learning believe that being committed to people getting vaccinated is the right thing to do.

We will communicate with you when we receive any additional updates from the Victorian Government. If you have any additional questions, please visit our [website](#), email mernda@maplesearlylearning.cm.au or contact our friendly team on [03 7020 1447](tel:0370201447).

Thank you for your support and please stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Lynda Kelly

Managing Director

Maples Early Learning