



## Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Tuesday 14 July 2020

Dear Student,

Many of you have been wondering when you will receive more detail about how teaching and learning will be delivered for the remainder of 2020.

We are now able to share with you Federation University Australia's proposed [Three-stage plan to a safe start on campus](#). We are currently in stage one of the plan and this plan is being regularly reviewed.

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### COVID-19 impact

The growth in locally acquired COVID-19 cases and community transmission across metropolitan Melbourne has caused Federation University and all Victorian universities to pause and adapt their plans to transition to on campus activities. While many of our campuses are in regional Victoria the actions we all take to limit our movement outside of our homes has a collective impact on limiting the spread of COVID-19.

While the Transition Control Group had initially hoped to see the gradual return of more students and staff to campus at the start of Semester Two, this plan has since been adjusted to take into account local conditions and the latest Victorian Government advice.

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## Three-stage plan to a safe start on campus

The [attached document](#) provides an overview of the principles and approach for our transition to on campus activities, and the extended detailed timeline for our transition to campus.

### **Stage one – current until mid-semester two**

Stage one is characterised by online study, limited activity on campus and limited research field work, while the majority of our staff continue to work from home. Any activity on campus will require approval by university leadership, after detailed risk assessment, to make sure staff and students are protected.

Federation TAFE will continue with a hybrid model of online and face-to-face practical and trade education.

### **Stage two – not before 19 September**

We hope to start bringing back more students in small group classes within a mixed model of online and on campus study, with progressively more staff on campus to support these operations. Many staff will continue to work from home, in particular staff in corporate and administrative roles, where there is not direct engagement with students.

### **Stage three – not before 4 January 2021**

We hope to bring back most of our staff and students to on campus activities but with blended online and on campus study across all of our disciplines, and improved options for working from home or rostering of staff where needed.

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## Timetables

The recent return to restrictions in some areas of the Victoria have resulted in us needing to make further adjustments to the timetable. We appreciate your patience as this important work is undertaken.

We are close to finalising timetables in line with our three stage plan. We aim to provide further advice later this week advising if any of your courses require on

campus participation, or if your classes will remain wholly online whilst we are in stage one.

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## Your health and wellbeing

The university continues to provide all of its support services to students during semester break as it does during semester. A full list of the [COVID-19 Support Services for Students can be found online](#). We encourage you to make this link a favourite on your internet search engine so you can readily access support as you need it.

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## Student counselling

If you are feeling anxious or distressed about the impacts of COVID-19 on you, or your studies, you can talk with a Federation University counsellor free of charge, via phone or online. Get emergency contacts and learn how to [make an appointment here](#).

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Please stay safe and check in on each other as we continue to adjust our lives to deal with our journey through the COVID-19 pandemic.

## On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group



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