

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thursday 9 April 2020

Dear Piccolo and Piccino families,

I hope this letter finds you well during this unsettling period.

Further to my letter dated 31 March, I write to update you with more positive news. Late yesterday, The Hamilton and Alexandra College Board agreed to cancel fees for all Early Learning Centre students next term. This decision was based on recent changes to both federal and state legislation and the acknowledgement that remote learning in the ELC context would look different. I am pleased that we can support our families at this time.

Hence, we will continue to provide the sessional kinder program, observing strict health guidelines, and provide partial learning for ELC 3 & 4 families at home. ELC will remain open for children of parents who cannot work from home or if children are not in a safe and supervised environment. Should you wish to access our Early Learning Centre, please contact Mrs Linda Archer as soon as possible on admin@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au. But I remind all ELC families that 'all students who can learn from home must learn at home'.

I was delighted to hear that our ELC Director, Mrs Frances O'Brien, is keeping in touch with families on the Storypark app. She will continue to send through online resources and Reggio Emilia learning ideas over the course of Term.

The school invoices were distributed last week with a reduction in ELC fees of 12.5%. Please ignore this cost. If you have already paid your Term 2 fees, our Accounts team will ensure this is credited into your account in the week after Easter. If you have any questions regarding this update, please contact our Business Manager, Mr Jason Bourke on jbourke@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au.

We remain determined to support our families through this challenging period to the best of our abilities. This unprecedented crisis will end, and we look forward to seeing the smiling faces of our Piccolo and Piccino students back on school grounds as soon as it is safe to do so.

I wish all families a safe and happy Easter.

Yours sincerely

Dr Andrew Hirst