



Sarah Connolly MP's eNewsletter



August Edition 2020

COVID-19 Update

Daily updates on all coronavirus related news are posted on my Facebook page which can be found [here](#).

A State of Disaster has been declared with Stage 4 restrictions put in place for Metro Melbourne in response to the escalation in numbers in Victoria. It's not where we wanted to be, but is necessary to protect the vulnerable and safeguard our community and society from the Coronavirus.



Stage 4 Restrictions - Now in place

For the Stage 4 lockdown there are new stay at home orders now in effect from 6pm Sunday 2nd August for the next six weeks. A **curfew** is now in operation **from 8pm to 5am** every evening with people only allowed to leave their house for work, and essential health, care or safety reasons.

Full details of restrictions and exemptions can be found [here](#).

Changes to working conditions [here](#).

Changes to childcare [here](#).

Sign Up - Business Alerts

I've set up a Local Business Alert Email that will provide updates about available grants and support for businesses in this challenging time.



Sign up by emailing me your business name, industry type and contact details: Sarah.Connolly@parliament.vic.gov.au

Sign Up - Working for Victoria Fund

If you have lost your job in the midst of this pandemic, or you're an employer looking to hire more staff to cope with the challenges of coronavirus, then sign up for the Working for Victoria program.

The program is designed to match Victorians who are out of work with local employment and training opportunities, including on government projects. Recently this included over 170 local jobs created in Wyndham in areas such as:

- hospitality, food preparation and delivery
- sport, recreation and arts engagement
- community services, engagement and outreach for vulnerable groups
- cleaning, maintenance and improvements of civic assets
- engagement and communication
- OHS, HR and administrative support

Find out more and apply [here](#).



LXR-Old Geelong Road

Earlier this year, designs for the level crossing removal were confirmed by the Level Crossing Removal Authority - a new road bridge will be built over the rail line east of the current crossing, directly connecting the Princes Highway to Old Geelong Road. A new pedestrian overpass will also be built at Hoppers Crossing Station.

Works commenced in April to set up site offices for the project along the Princes Highway. Underground services such as water and electricity will be relocated and once these works are completed, construction will begin on earthworks and piling for the bridge foundations.

Old Geelong Road Level Crossing is expected to be finished by 2022. You can find out more about the project [here](#).



Tarneit Train Station

Works are set to commence soon on the upgrade to Tarneit Station's car park, as part of the Victorian Government's Carparks for Commuters Fund, which aims to build 11,000 extra parking spaces at train stations across Victoria. As part of this fund, Tarneit station will receive 500 extra parking spaces.



The Department of Transport, as part of early development works, is evaluating all available options, geotechnical/ground conditions, construction and environmental considerations.

At the end of last month, geotechnical evaluations were conducted at Tarneit Station to determine appropriate design choices. These evaluations include land surveys, locating underground utilities and services and ground and soil evaluations.

Supporting Community Sports

I want to thank and congratulate all sporting clubs who applied for the Victorian Government's Community Sports Sector COVID-19 Survival Package.

This fund is designed to assist local community sporting clubs, big and small, as they recover from the Coronavirus pandemic. Up to \$40 million has been made available to help clubs across Victoria, including small grants of \$1,000 for individual sports clubs, which is aimed to help local clubs with basic running costs and supporting a return to play when it is safe to do so.

- Tarneit Titans Netball Club
- Tarneit United Soccer Club
- The Harley Club of Victoria
- Royal Bengal Sports Club
- Tarneit Table Tennis
- Cambridge Tennis Club
- Club60 Tarneit
- Laverton Softball Club
- Truganina Cricket Club
- Tarneit Football Club
- City West Falcons
- Young Leopards Sports
- Western Eagles Sports Club
- United Tarneit Sports Club
- Hoppers Crossing Football Club
- Hoppers Crossing Soccer Club
- Hoppers Crossing Cricket Club
- Tarneit Central Cricket Club
- Williams Landing Football Club
- Truganina Thunder Football Club
- Truganina Hornets Soccer Club
- Truganina Rabbitohs Rugby League Club
- Nippon-Den Kempo Junseikan International

Dohertys Creek P-9 College Stage Two Funding \$11.2M

Earlier this year, Truganina residents received welcome news that Doherty's Creek P-9 College, which opened last year, had received \$11.3 million from the Victorian Government's \$2.7 billion Building Works Fund. This funding will go towards commencing Stage 2 works, expanding the school's learning facilities. I want to thank members of the school community, including Principal Ian Wren, for their advocacy in securing this funding.

Once these works are complete, Doherty's Creek will truly be a P-9 school, with enrolments for years 7-9 to commence in 2022.



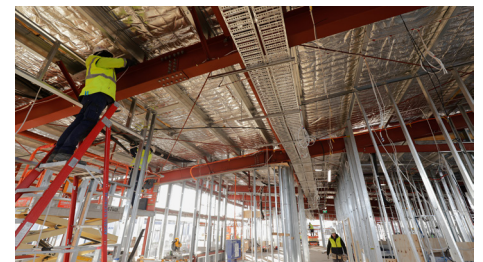
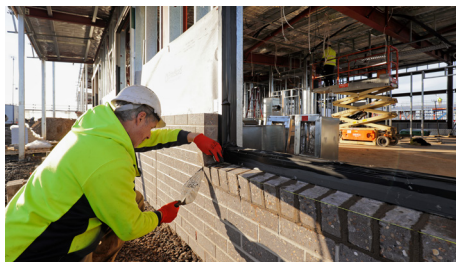
Truganina South East Primary School (Opens 2021)

The Department of Education has recently appointed Natalie Nelson to be the first Principal of our newest school, Truganina South East Primary School.

'Natalie Nelson has a passion for creating vibrant communities where students excel, and parents feel connected to the school. Prior to commencing at Truganina South East Primary School (interim name), she was the principal at Ashburton and Altona Primary School.'



To request an enrolment pack email: Natalie.Nelson@education.vic.gov.au or contact Dohertys Creek P-9 College.



Part of the Andrews Government's commitment to build 100 new schools by 2026, the school will include: two learning neighbourhoods, an administration building, outdoor play courts, performing arts and physical education building, and a sports field.

Supporting Student Mental Health

All government run secondary schools will be receiving mental health practitioners for at least one day a week relevant to the school's size.

Mental health practitioners offer counselling and early intervention services, and act as coordinating support for students with complex needs, linking them with broader allied community and health services. Participating schools include:

- Baden Powell P-9 College
- Truganina P-9 College
- Dohertys Creek P-9 College
- Hoppers Crossing Secondary College
- The Grange P-12 College
- Tarneit Senior College
- Tarneit P-9 College

Coronavirus Resources

Translated COVID-19 Resources

The Department of Health and Human Services provides translations for essential COVID-19 information in over 50 languages. If your language is not here please contact me and I can get your language translated. Please access the resources [here](#).

Domestic Violence Support

You are **always** allowed to leave your home if you are escaping family violence, no matter where you live in Victoria or what coronavirus restrictions are in place. You will not be fined and support services are available.

Call safe steps on 1800 015 188, email safesteps@safesteps.org.au or visit safesteps.org.au for help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you are in immediate danger – call 000.



Rental Relief - Residential & Commercial

We have introduced a fair system to support tenants and landlords during the pandemic.

This includes a \$80 million fund whereby tenants can receive financial assistance in paying their rent after they go through a mediation process with their landlord.

There are several more programs funded under the Rental Relief Package.

Residential information [here](#).

Commercial information [here](#).

Business Support

To support businesses impacted by Stage 4 restrictions, one-off grants will be made available to eligible businesses under the Business Support Fund – Expansion program:

- \$10,000 for employing businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire in recognition of spending longer under restrictions
- \$5,000 for employing businesses in regional local government areas (except Mitchell Shire)

Businesses which have already received a Business Support Fund - Expansion grant, or have applied for one, will not need to re-apply. Successful applicants will automatically receive this additional allocation.

Applications for the program will be extended until 14 September 2020

Call the Business Victoria hotline for any assistance on 13 22 15 or

Find out more about the support package [here](#).

Mental Health Support - Students, Parents & Teachers

A range of wellbeing resources for students, parents and teachers have been introduced to help our kids get through this pandemic.

These resources complement the existing mental health and wellbeing support available to all Victorian government school kids.

Secondary school students can access counselling via a voice call or video conference through the headspace counselling partnership or via their school-based mental health practitioner.

Find out more [here](#).



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