

Public Accounts and Estimates Hearing – COVID-19 response

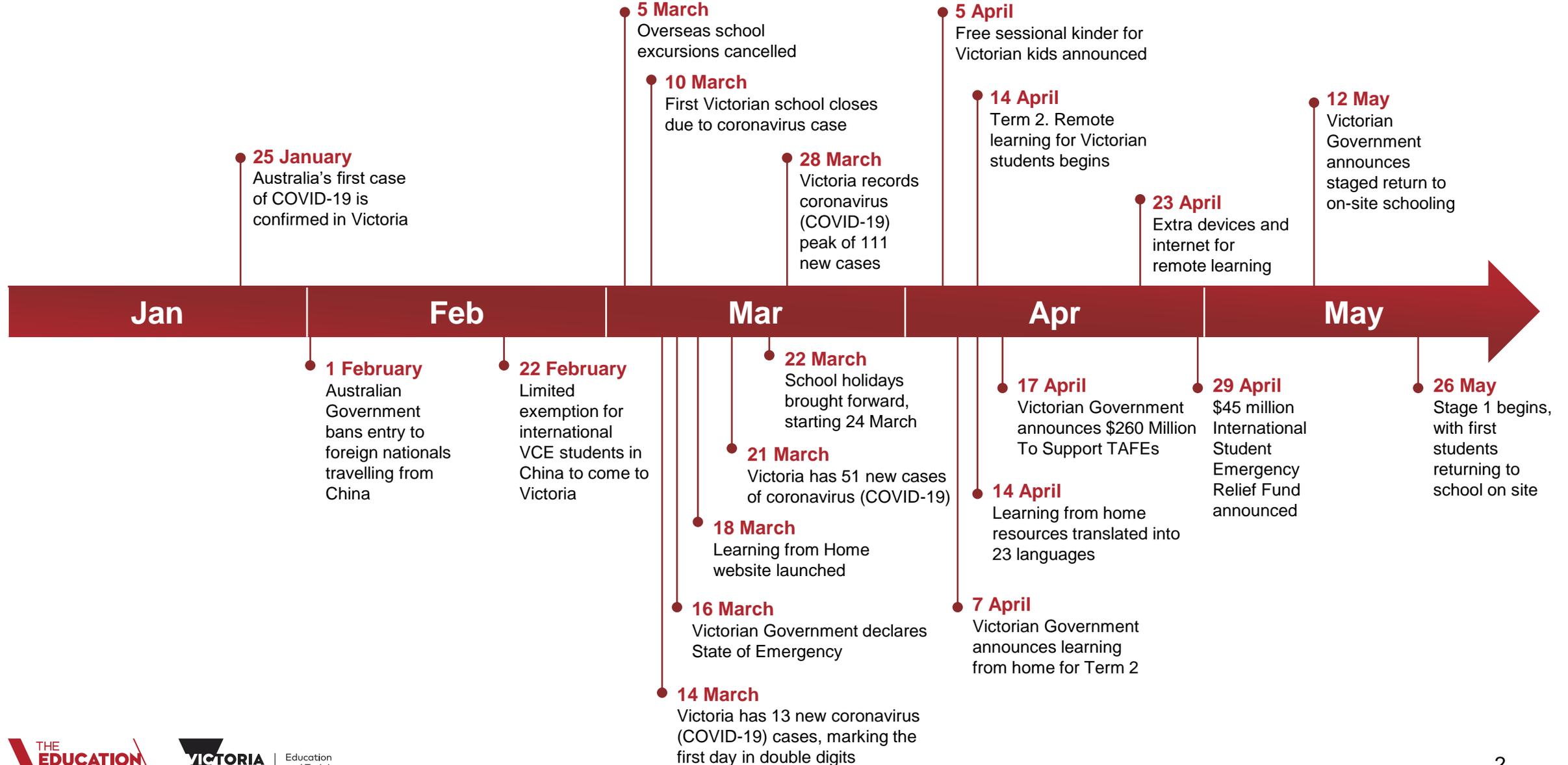
18 May 2020



Education
and Training

THE HON. JAMES MERLINO MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for the Coordination of Education and Training – COVID-19

TIMELINE



COVID-19 NATIONAL PRINCIPLES FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION

Summary of seven principles

- 1** Education is best delivered by teachers to students in the classroom.
- 2** During the COVID-19 crisis alternative flexible, remote delivery of education services may be needed.
- 3** Schools must be healthy and safe environments for students, teachers and other staff.
- 4** State and Territory Governments and non-government sector authorities are responsible for managing their school systems.
- 5** Decisions regarding the response to COVID-19 in the schooling sector must be informed by expert, official, national and state-based public health and education advice.
- 6** All students must continue to be supported to ensure participation in quality education during the COVID-19 crisis.
- 7** The health advice consistently provided by the AHPPC is that attendance at a school campus for education represents a very low health risk to students.

SCHOOLS

Across jurisdictions

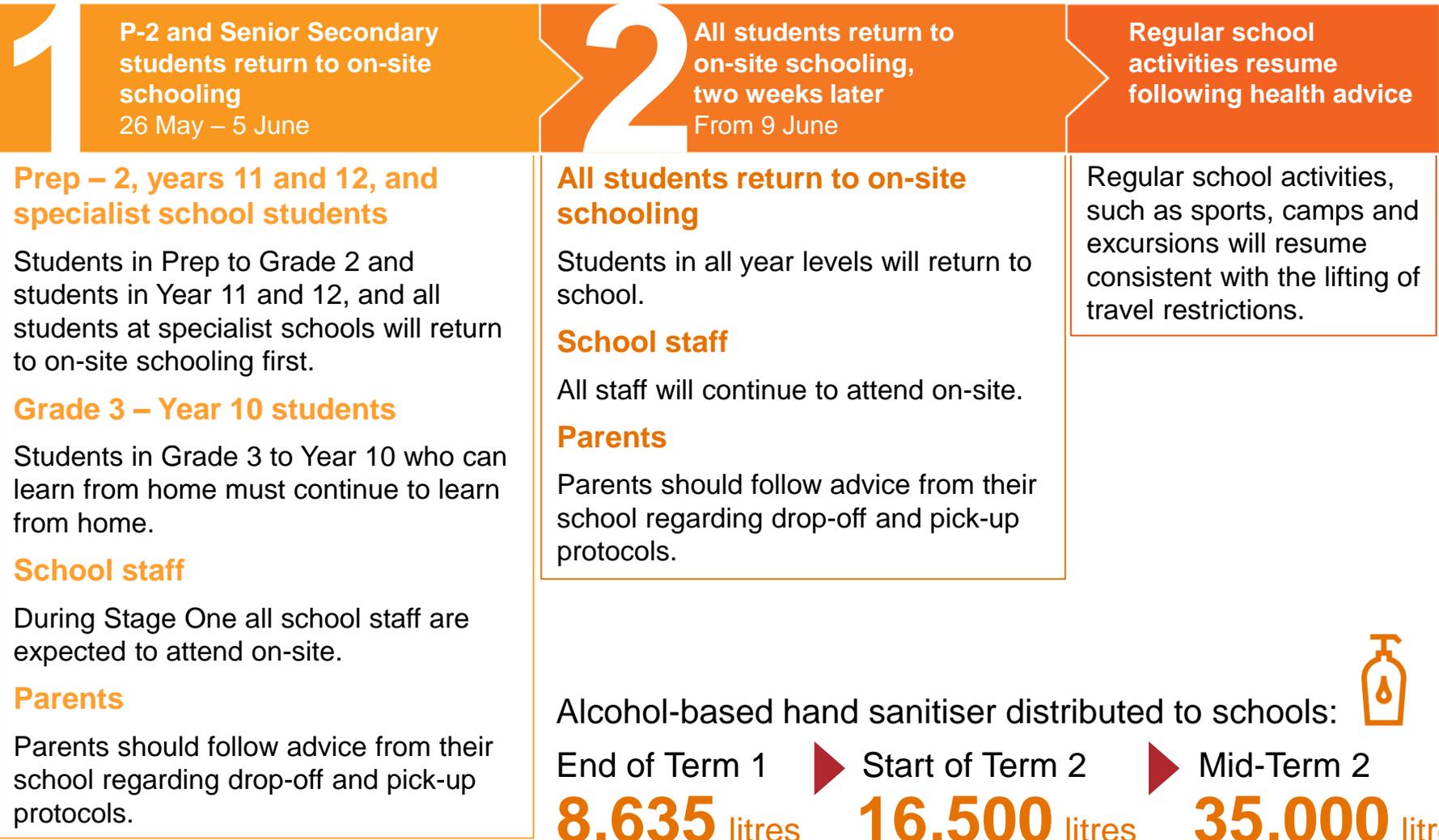
Victoria	New South Wales	Queensland	Australian Capital Territory	Tasmania	Western Australia	South Australia	Northern Territory
<p>22 March School holidays brought forward. Learning from home from start of Term 2.</p> <p>26 May On-site schooling for Prep to Grade 2, years 11 and 12 and Specialist Schools.</p> <p>9 June (proposed) All students return.</p>	<p>23 March Families told to keep their children home. Learning from home from start of Term 2.</p> <p>11 May Students at school at least one day per week.</p> <p>20 July (expected) Students at school five days per week.</p>	<p>26 March School holidays brought forward. Learning from home from start of Term 2.</p> <p>11 May On-site schooling for Kindergarten, Prep, Grade 1, years 11 and 12.</p> <p>25 May (proposed) All students return.</p>	<p>22 March Families told to keep their children home. Learning from home from start of Term 2.</p> <p>18 May On-site schooling for Prep to Grade 2, and years 7, 11 and 12.</p> <p>2 June (proposed) All students return.</p>	<p>31 March Families told to keep their children home. Learning from home from start of Term 2.</p> <p>25 May On-site schooling for Prep to Grade 6, and years 11 and 12.</p> <p>9 June (proposed) All students return.</p>	<p>26 March Parents encouraged to keep their children at home apart from years 11 and 12.</p> <p>29 April All children encouraged to return to school due to very low levels of COVID-19.</p>	<p>26 March Schools given 4 pupil-free days at end of term 1 to plan for transition to flexible learning.</p> <p>Start of Term 2 Due to very low levels of COVID-19, schools open as usual.</p>	<p>Students attending school as usual</p>
<p>Remote learning duration: 9 weeks</p>	<p>Remote learning duration: 13 weeks</p>	<p>Remote learning duration: 6 weeks</p>	<p>Remote learning duration: 8 weeks</p>	<p>Remote learning duration: 8 weeks</p>	<p>Remote learning duration: 3 weeks</p>	<p>Remote learning duration: 1 week</p>	

RETURNING TO SCHOOL

Essential actions

- ☑ Cleaning
- ☑ Physical distancing
- ☑ Hygiene
- ☑ Health

\$45 million 
for enhanced cleaning
in Term 2 and Term 3



Alcohol-based hand sanitiser distributed to schools: 

End of Term 1	▶ Start of Term 2	▶ Mid-Term 2
8,635 litres	16,500 litres	35,000 litres

SCHOOLS

Transition to remote learning

The Learning From Home site has received more than

400,000 hits



26,000

Highest number of unique users on FUSE in a 24 hour period

10,000



teachers trained to use video conferencing

98%



of government schools using video content

4,307



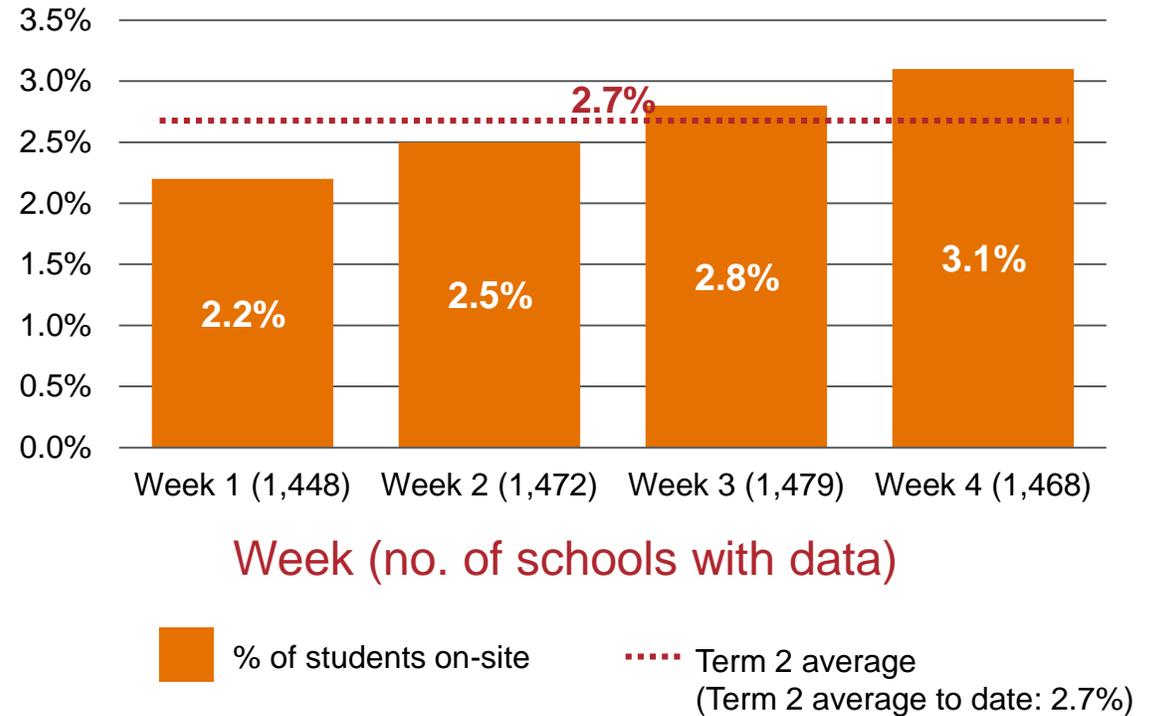
people calling COVID-19 hotline

800+



staff questions submitted via online FAQ portal

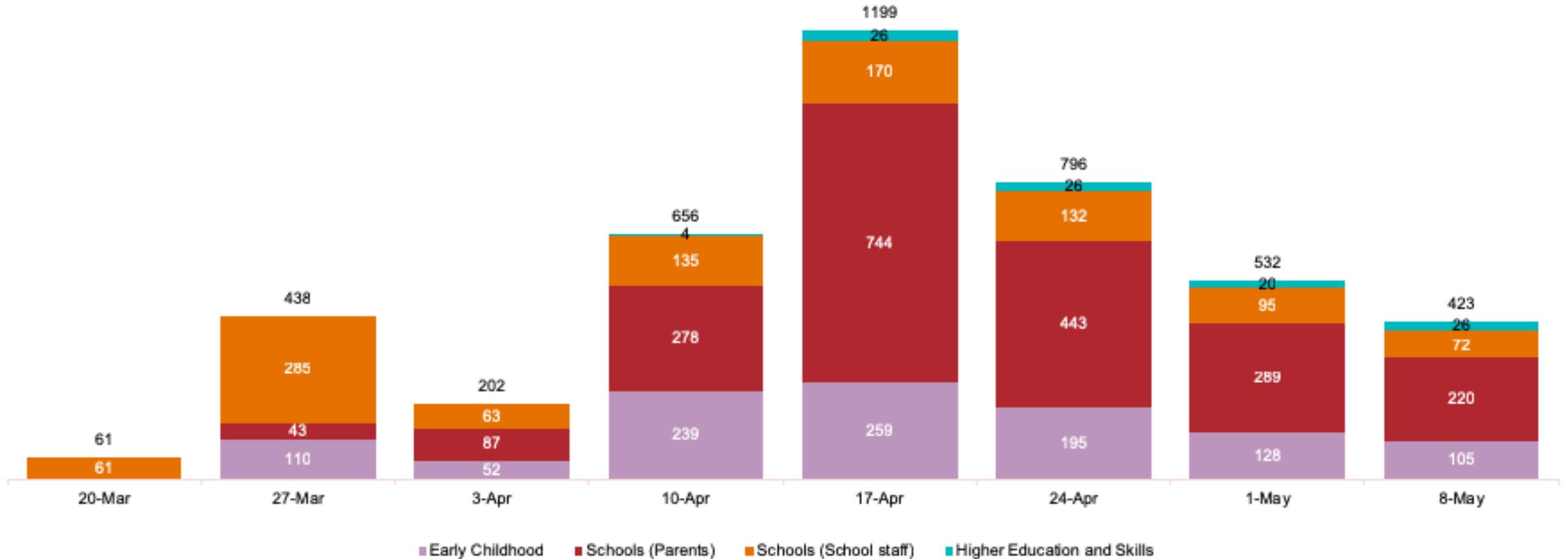
Percentage of students on-site



Last updated May 2020

RESPONSIVENESS TO PARENTS AND STAFF

DET COVID-19 Advice Lines, by week ending



SCHOOLS

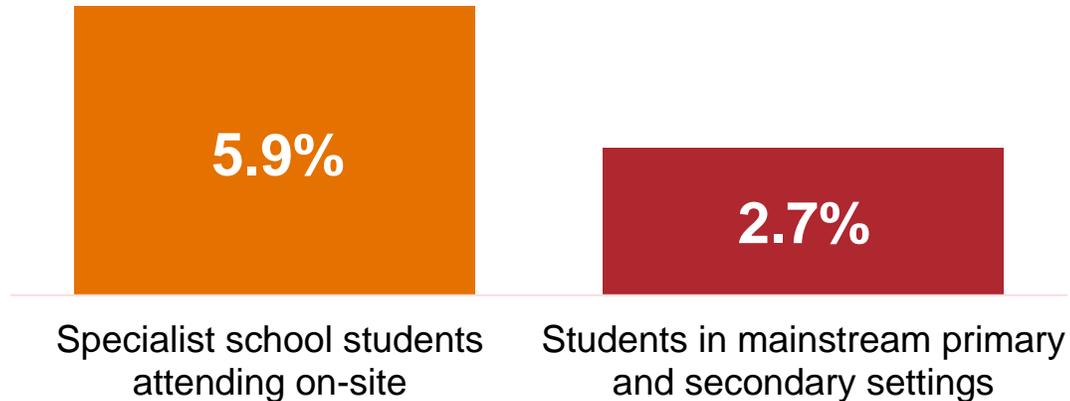
Support for students

Support for students with a disability

- On-site and at home learning
- Teaching and learning resources
- Advice for schools and parents

On-site attendance

(for week 4 of Term 2)



Devices for learning from home

15,790  SIM cards and dongles to help students access the internet

Laptops/tablets for students:

32,860
Secondary schools



15,600
Secondary schools

1,850
Specialist schools

5,860
P-12 schools



EARLY CHILDHOOD

Supporting Early Childhood Education and Care Services

 Up to **\$45 million** available for free sessional kindergarten:

- Additional **\$498** for each fee-paying enrolment for eligible services for Term 2
- Based on fee subsidy (KFS) + the KFS Ratio Kindergarten Supplement, pro rata for Term 2
- Funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten in the 2020 rollout areas also eligible
- Funding also available for unfunded sessional programs for three-year-olds in Term 2.



EARLY CHILDHOOD

Learning from home

Some families are keeping their children at home.

For most services, attendance is:

- Sessional kindergarten: **30-50 per cent**
- Long day care: **40-70 per cent***

*data provided by peak bodies



School Readiness Funding

- Flexibility for services receiving SRF to pay for additional resources and staff time to support learning from home
- An additional **\$900,000** for services not yet getting SRF to do the same.

The Department has also provided:

- professional learning webinars for early childhood staff
- a repository of high-quality play-based learning activities
- additional advice and resources on a new learning from home website.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Response

Supporting TAFEs

\$260.8 million 

support package for TAFEs and training providers:

- **\$191.9 million** for business continuity
- **\$68.9 million** in crisis support

Supporting international students

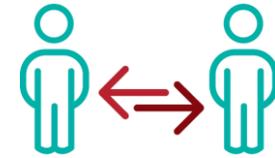
\$45 million 

International Student Emergency Relief fund for students facing financial hardship due to COVID-19

TAFEs teaching online



More courses delivered online, including **11** Free TAFE qualifications



For face-to-face learning, physical distancing applies.

Enrolments

Enrolments are down only **0.3%** compared to the same time last year.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Towards recovery

Working for Victoria

\$500 million 

package (led by DJPR) to help job seekers to re-skill

Part of

\$1.7 billion 

economic survival and jobs package



TAFEs are a key partner

Figures will continue to grow, but in just the first few weeks, Working for Victoria has helped connect job seekers with training and jobs.

16 

free online training courses

1,900+ 

course completions

2,900+ 

people have found jobs

INVESTING IN EDUCATION FOR OUR RECOVERY

\$1.18 billion investment in education infrastructure

\$388.8 million 

for 57 school upgrade and modernisation projects

This includes **\$4.2 million** to rebuild Clifton Creek Primary School

\$55 million 

for maintenance projects at TAFEs

\$438.6 million 

to build 10 new schools and provide more than 7,000 spaces for Victorian students

This includes

\$119 million  GREATER SHEPPARTON SECONDARY COLLEGE

to build the Greater Shepparton Secondary College as part of the Shepparton Education Plan

Creating **290+** jobs

\$10 million 

to support infrastructure modifications for schools that have students with disabilities, as part of the Accessible Buildings Program

1,600 

Victorian jobs supported in the construction industry

