



Contact Information

Reception – 0419 481 754
seymour@nefln.vic.edu.au

Term 1 Calendar

Friday – 4th April -Last Day Term 1

Tuesday -22nd April – First Day Term 2



Contact Information

Shane Elliott
Principal – 0408 585 804
shane.elliott@education.vic.gov.au

Principal's Update

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2025!

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break, spending quality time with family and friends. It has been wonderful to see our students return refreshed and ready for another exciting year of learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new staff members to the Seymour FLC team. We are delighted to have Debra Lemon join us as a new teacher, bringing her enthusiasm and experience to our classrooms. Additionally, we welcome Sara Gething, who will be supporting our school community as our new school nurse. Their expertise and dedication will undoubtedly benefit our students, and we look forward to their contributions.

We are also pleased to welcome back Mr. Brian Howley, who will continue to provide valuable support in the Wellbeing Space. Brian comes to us from The Bridge Youth Services and has been an integral part of our student support system, helping to create a positive and inclusive environment for all.

The first term is off to a great start, and it has been fantastic to witness the progress our students are making in their studies. As we move through the year, our key focus remains on student attendance and engagement. Regular attendance is crucial to academic success, and we kindly ask for your support in encouraging your child to attend all scheduled classes. Developing a consistent routine for school attendance helps students build lifelong habits of responsibility and perseverance.

We are excited for the year ahead and look forward to working together to support our students in reaching their full potential. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Wishing you all a wonderful and successful 2025 school year!

Best regards,
Shane Elliott
Campus Principal.

Department Directives

No Smoking or Vaping	Mobile Phone Policy	Students Absences
<p>In Victoria, a person must not smoke or vape on school premises or within 4 metres of any pedestrian access point to school premises.</p> <p>The prohibition on smoking includes vaping and applies whether or not the e-cigarette contains nicotine.</p> <p>Cigarettes and e-cigarettes cannot be sold to people under 18 years of age.</p> <p>It is a legislative requirement that schools must display suitable No Smoking or Vaping signs at all pedestrian access points (entrances) to the school grounds. The legislation defines smoking to include e-cigarettes.</p> <p>Smoking and vaping are not permitted during school events and excursions held off school premises.</p> <p>Use or possession of an e-cigarette does not fall under any of the grounds for suspension of a student.</p>	<p>Students who bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours.</p> <p>For the purpose of this policy, a mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.</p> <p>Exceptions to the policy may be applied if certain conditions are met. Exceptions can be granted by the principal, or by a teacher. Exceptions must be documented.</p> <p>Schools must provide secure storage.</p> <p>Schools are required to develop a local policy on students using mobile phones, which must include how this ministerial policy will be implemented and may include other personal devices in addition to mobile phones.</p> <p>Schools will manage non-compliance with their local mobile phone policy in accordance with their existing student engagement policies.</p> <p>Schools should review their local policy as part of their regular cycle of review for school policies.</p>	<p>Schools must:</p> <p>have an Attendance Policy as part of their Student Engagement Policy</p> <p>maintain attendance records</p> <p>identify and follow up unexplained absences</p> <p>record student attendance twice per day in primary schools and in every class in secondary schools</p> <p>record, in writing, the reason given for each absence</p> <p>advise parents/carers of unexplained absences, as soon as practicable on the same day of the absence, including for post-compulsory aged students.</p> <p>Please phone/text your student's teacher or reception to inform us of any student absences. If we don't hear from you then we are required to contact you.</p>

Respectful Relationships

Seymour flexible Learning Centre is a Respectful Relationship Partner school. Respectful Relationships is a state government initiative that supports schools to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours. It teaches our young people how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence. It supports young students in dealing with a range of challenges they may face and covers topics including being respectful, resilient, engaged at school and being confident within themselves. Respectful Relationships promotes equality and helps students learn how to build healthy relationships.

Careers

What a wonderful start to the year.

Well done to the students that have commenced into new VEDSS courses. This year we have students completing the following units-

Cert II Skills for Work

Cert II Animal Care

Cert II Community Services

Cert II Automotive

Cert II Plumbing

Cert II Design Fundamentals

Cert III Equine

Great diversity of opportunities

Focus for Term 1 is looking at career/pathway opportunities that students are wanting to explore. This term has a focus on individual Career Action Plans, as well as leading into work placement readiness. In Term 2 there will be a strong focus on getting students into the workforce/industries on work placements or as school groups.

This year we are running the following courses-

Responsible Services of Alcohol

Food Handlers Certificate

Construction Induction Card

Barista Certificate

First Aid

Any students wanting to join in, need to add their names to the lists in the front foyer. Dates to come out soon.

UP COMING:



- RSA COURSE
- BARISTA COURSE
- FOOD HANDLERS
- FIRST AID
- CONSTRUCTION INDUCATION CARD (WHITE CARD)

CAREERS

SHORT

COURSES

PUT YOUR NAME ON THE LIST

CALLING ALL KOORIE YOUTH!

DEADLY ART WORKSHOPS: PAINT, WOOD BURN, WEAVE AND MORE

Over three epic sessions, you'll get to explore a mix of amazing art styles—weaving, wood burning, painting, and more! Try them all, find your favourites, and create 1 or 2 pieces of art that are totally YOU.

You won't be doing this alone! Incredible Aboriginal community artists will be there to guide you through each medium, sharing their skills, knowledge, and culture along the way.

Ages 12 to 25 years old

When: Wednesday 12th March
Explore & Create all Mediums

Time: 3:00pm to 5:00pm (come in at anytime)
Where: Our Place Seymour - 29 Stewart Street

Followed by Wednesday 19th and 26th March - working on your chosen art medium.

Contact Bobbie Pepper:
m: 0412 640 914 (Text or Call)
e: karperap@outlook.com.au
f: Message via FB or IG - Karperap

Follow Karperap

Sponsored by:



Helen's Classroom

What a wonderful and productive start to Term 1.

Our students have produced some excellent assignments across the curriculum and have participated in a lot of collaborative work, demonstrating their camaraderie within a team.

Above all, one aspect that I am thoroughly delighted with is the unique sense of humour expressed by the class and the positive culture we are inculcating.

Here are a few comments from our class members:

"I have really enjoyed the math challenges and especially the Unit on Biomes". -Baz

"I'm new to the class and have found it very welcoming – I love the math". - Jacob

"I'm excited to come to school now". - Brianna

"My attendance record is 100% and I'm proud of my efforts in the class." - Austinn

"My classmates are great" - Heidi

"I love the progress that our classmates have made and how we all work well together and know each other. – Lily



Word of the week



Student Values and Strengths Crest

Leigh's Classroom

Skills for Work

This year a group of students from Seymour Flexible Learning Centre have been working hard to complete their VET course in Skills For Work.

It has been fantastic to see how excited and energised the students have been about the course. They have been exploring their personal skills and qualities and how this could lead them to a preferred career in the future.

I've been amazed at how independent all the students have been at approaching their studies. It's a course that requires deep thinking, personal reflection and a great amount of research. There is a lot of work involved and we're all working very hard to keep up to date.

Well done to all the VET Skills For Work students for their great efforts.



Ash's Classroom

VCE-VM Literacy Unit 3

smartraveller
.gov.au

advice

Each student selected a country from the Smartraveller website and created an informational text providing people with safety advice and other important things to know before they travel. The posters included information specific to their chosen country about the travel risk level, safety information, health information, local laws, visas and more!



Other informational texts!



Wellbeing @ the Flexi

Dear Seymour Flexi Community Members,

Happy New Year! I hope 2025 brings health, happiness, and success to you all.

It's Brian here, the Wellbeing Worker at Seymour Flexi. I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at last year's Awards Ceremony, and I'm excited to connect with even more of you in the year ahead. This year, I'll be working at Seymour Flexi from Tuesday to Friday, while Mondays will see me back at The Bridge Youth Services, where I support young people through the Navigator program.

A bit about me—I trained as a teacher in the 1980s and began my youth work journey in 1988 in Port Hedland, working with young Aboriginal men and women. Over the years, I've gained experience across mental health, drug and alcohol support, and various educational settings. I'm passionate about bringing this wealth of knowledge to Seymour Flexi to support our young people with care and expertise.

Coming up in March, I've organised presentations on Cyberbullying & Online Safety and Healthy Living & Nutrition. I'll keep you updated on more sessions and events throughout the year.

The teenage years can be both exciting and challenging. If you or your young person ever need support, here are two excellent resources:

- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800 | [kidshelpline.com.au](https://www.kidshelpline.com.au)
- Parentline (for parents, grandparents, and carers): 132 289 | [Parentline](https://www.parentline.com.au)

There's an old saying: *"It takes a village to raise a child."* At Seymour Flexi, we believe it takes a community to educate one.

Wishing you all a fulfilling and inspiring 2025. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to discuss anything specific regarding your young person—I'm here to help.

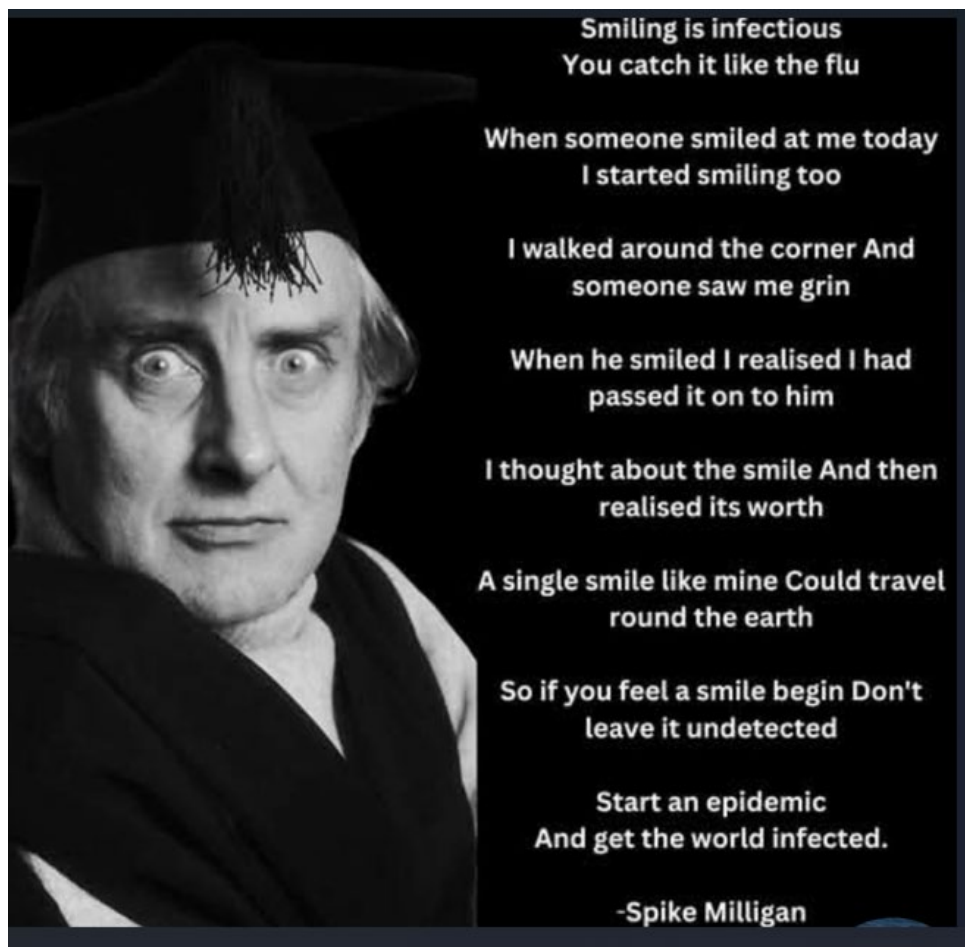
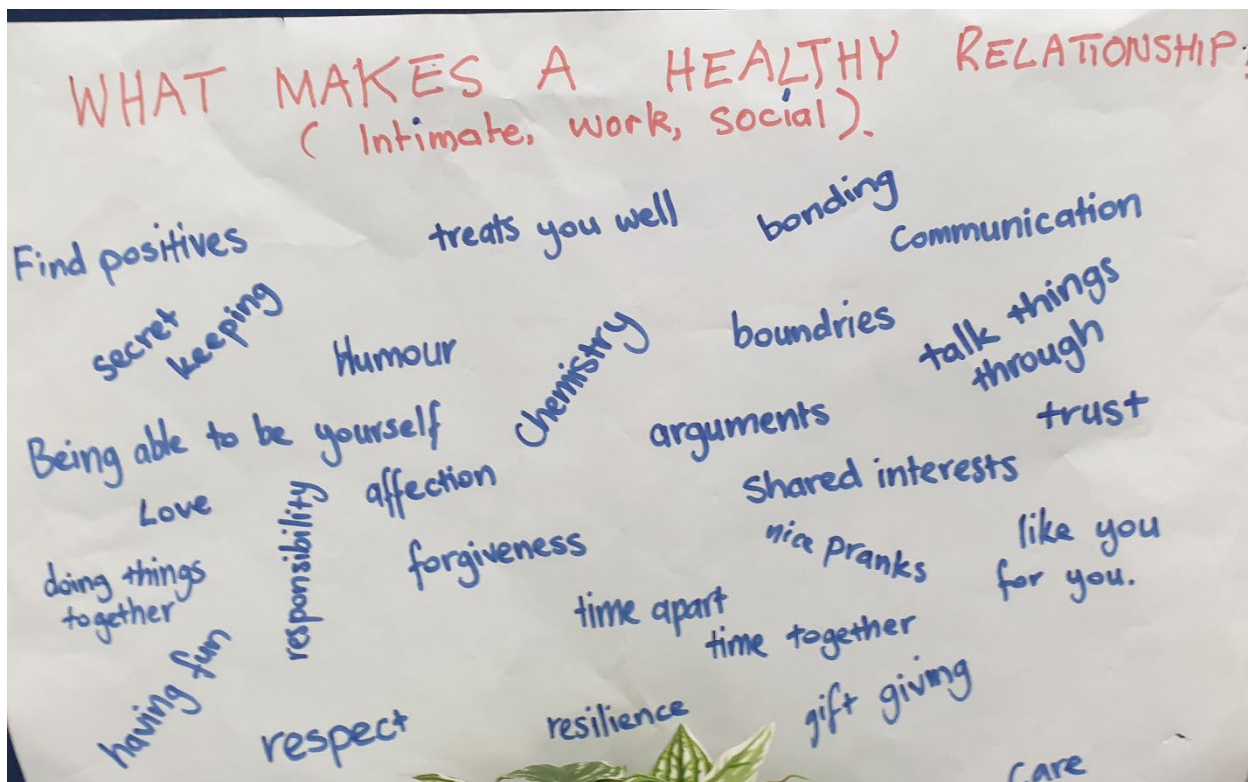
Warm regards,

Brian

Wellbeing Worker, Seymour Flexi

Important messages displayed at Seymour Flexible Learning Centre. Healthy minds and healthy relationships are important for all of us.







SCHOOL PORTAL

NORTH EAST FLEXIBLE LEARNING NETWORK

YOUR SCHOOL PORTAL

The North East Flexible Learning Network utilises the School Portal mobile app to support the important three-way partnership between the classroom teacher, parents and their child.

School Portal provides real-time access to information to ensure that parents and guardians are kept informed of their child's learning and progression through their secondary education.

The School Portal mobile app has a growing list of functionality and provides access to:

- Download and view student reports
- Approve attendance
- Subject and activity payments
- Notification centre
- Teacher and Campus Leader contacts
- School calendar
- Announcements
- Approve and pay school activities
- Student timetable
- Update personal details

Visit the App store for iOS or the Google Play store for Android devices and search for 'School Portal' to download the app. Once downloaded, launch it and enter either the mobile phone number or email address associated with your child's enrolment at the school. You will then be sent a 6-digit verification code to the email address or mobile number entered, enter this to complete the registration process.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Pre-approved attendance

From the School Portal, pre-approved absences can be entered for when it is known in advance that your child will be absent. A note about the absence along with a duration and type of absence can be entered via the portal. This will make staff aware of the absence when they mark their class attendance.

Unexplained absences

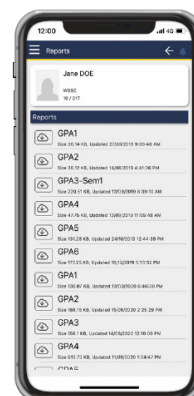
If your child has been absent, an explanation for this absence can be entered via the School Portal by selecting the 'Approved Absences' option from the menu. This will request a type of absence and allow an opportunity for a note to be entered which will be available for your child's teachers to view.



STUDENT REPORTS

Your child's progress reports are available to be downloaded and viewed from the School Portal, these are updated after every reporting cycle to ensure that you have access to the most up to date information.

Historical student reports from their time at the College are also made available through the School Portal.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q:** Can more than one parent or carer have access to the School Portal?
- A:** Yes, each parent or carer that is assigned to the student upon enrolment can login using their email address or mobile phone number. Please contact your school to update enrolment information.
- Q:** I have children that attend other schools in the area, will they also appear in the same app or will I need different account details?
- A:** Yes, if your school uses the School Portal, these all appear in the one location under the 'My Family' area. Please ensure that your contact mobile phone number and email address are the same across these schools.
- Q:** What if my child has access to my mobile device, will they be able to access the School Portal?
- A:** In addition to the one-time login, a custom 4-digit security pin can be set within the app. Once configured you will be prompted to enter this every time when accessing the app.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

In the 'Activities' section of the School Portal mobile app, consent and payment can be made for student activities, preventing the need for printed permission slips to be distributed.

Once your child has been invited to participate in an activity, you will receive a push notification through the mobile app. You will then be able to approve their participation, provide an additional note to the staff member organising the event and if applicable, make a payment conveniently through the same interface.



System guide for parents and carers

How to use the online School Saving Bonus parent and carer online system

About the School Saving Bonus

The Victorian Government is making life a little bit easier for families by providing a one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus. This support will help cover the cost of school uniforms, textbooks, and school activities like camps, excursions and sports.

Receiving the School Saving Bonus

Parents and carers of government school students enrolled for 2025 will receive an email from the Department of Education from 26 November 2024.

The email will contain:

- your unique School Saving Bonus code to use the \$400 support
- a link to the [School Saving Bonus parent and carer online system](#).

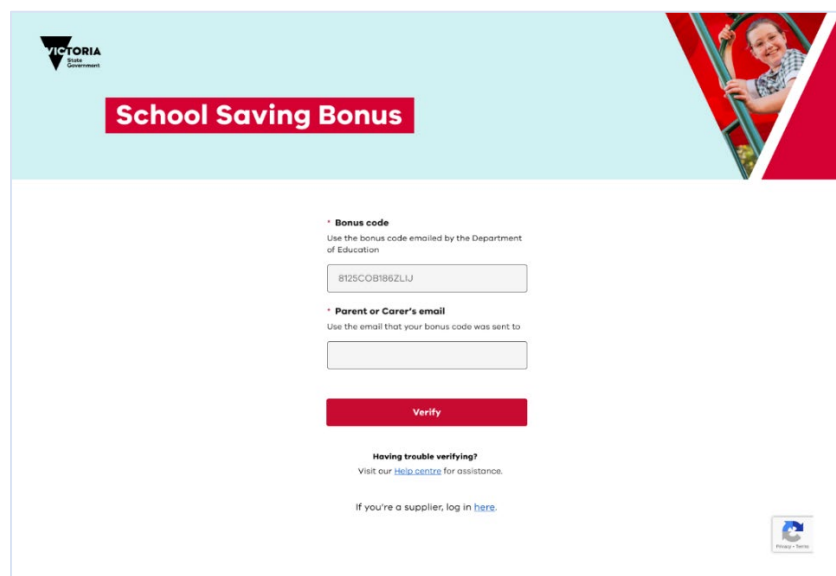
Parents and carers will receive one email and code for each eligible student in their family.

If you cannot locate the email, check your spam or junk folder. If you have not received your School Saving Bonus code via email by Friday 29 November, please contact the Department of Education by emailing school.saving.bonus@education.vic.gov.au.

Please note, the Department of Education and the Victorian Government will never ask you to provide your banking or financial details for the School Saving Bonus.

Accessing the School Saving Bonus parent and carer online system

1. Visit the [School Saving Bonus parent and carer online system](#)
2. The following webpage will be displayed:



3. Enter your unique School Saving Bonus code from the Department of Education and the email address it was sent to and click **verify**.

4. After you click **verify**, you will see your School Saving Bonus summary page.

School Saving Bonus summary page

The School Saving Bonus summary page provides key information and lets you choose how to spend the School Saving Bonus.

What would you like to do?

[In-store purchase](#) [Online purchase](#) [School activities](#)

[View codes](#) [View transaction history](#)

Open all

Allocating School Saving Bonus funds	▼
Using the School Saving Bonus for in-store purchases	▼
Using the School Saving Bonus for online purchases	▼
School Saving Bonus online code expiry	▼
Using the School Saving Bonus for school activities	▼
School Saving Bonus uniforms and textbooks expiry	▼
More information	▼

Quick links

- [About the School Saving Bonus](#)
- [Guide to the online portc](#)

© 2024 Copyright Victorian State Government

Quick links to key actions and the option to log out.

Links your child's details, current School Saving Bonus balance and school suppliers.

These links let you choose how to spend the bonus. Learn more about these links in the 'How to use your School Saving Bonus' section of this guide.

Click on drop down arrows to learn more or follow the quick links.

How to use the School Saving Bonus

The School Saving Bonus support can be used for an [in-store purchase](#), [online purchase](#), and [school activities](#). Through the School Saving Bonus summary page, you may also choose to [view codes](#), or your [transaction history](#).

Once you allocate your bonus to an in-store purchase, an online purchase, or to school activities, it cannot be reversed.

Newsletter #5 2025

Term 1 Week 7

But don't worry. If you have any unspent funds, or you don't use the funds you allocate to in-store purchases or online purchases, these funds will automatically be available on your child's school account as an activities credit on 1 July 2025. This will help cover the cost of things like excursions and camps.

Allocating the School Saving Bonus to school activities

Click **School activities** to allocate all or part of the School Saving Bonus to school activities. The below page will appear, where you can select the amount you would like to nominate. Once you have selected the amount, click **next**.

You will be asked to confirm your allocation. **Please review your allocation carefully as this cannot be changed or reversed.**

The amount chosen will be available on your child's school account (the school they're enrolled at for 2025). **Please allow 48 hours for the transfer to take place.**

You will also receive an email confirming the allocation.

View codes and/or view transaction history

To see your School Saving Bonus code, and/or any [online supplier code/s](#), click **View codes** from the School Saving Bonus summary page.

To see how you have used your School Saving Bonus in store, click on **View transaction history** from the summary page. Please note that only in-store transactions are shown.

Help and support

More information about the School Saving Bonus parent and carer online system is available on the summary page.

For immediate support email school.saving.bonus@education.vic.gov.au.

From Monday 25 November 2024 the following additional options will be operational:

- Calling 1800 338 663 during business hours.
- Completing this [online enquiry form](#).