



Newsletter

Term 1 | Week 1 - Friday 31st January 2025

Annunciation Catholic Primary School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the start of the 2025 school year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful and restful break, filled with moments of joy and connection. As we step into this new year, I am excited to welcome back our returning students and families, and extend a warm welcome to those joining our school community for the first time.

This year promises to be filled with opportunities for growth, learning, and success. Our dedicated staff have been busy preparing for the term ahead, and we are committed to providing a supportive and enriching environment where every child can thrive.

We are excited to see our students' smiling faces back in classrooms, eager to learn, connecting with friends, and taking on new challenges. Together, as a school community, we will continue to nurture a culture of respect, inclusion, and excellence.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. I look forward to working with you to make 2025 a fantastic year for our students and our school. Wishing you all a wonderful start to the school year.

Take care,
Anna

Welcome
BACK to
SCHOOL

ANNUNCIATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

4-14 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn 3012 PO Box 431 Altona North 3025 Ph: (03) 9314 6271
Web: www.asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au Email: office@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

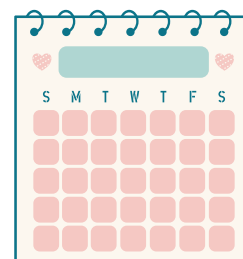


Staffing Structure for 2025

Principal:	Mrs Anna Yorston
Deputy Principal:	Mr Seán Walshe
Learning Diversity Leader:	Mr Seán Walshe
Wellbeing Leader:	Mr Seán Walshe
Learning & Teaching Leader:	Mrs Belinda Ward (Wed, Thurs & Fri) (new)
Religious Education Leader:	Mrs Anna Yorston
Literacy Leader:	Mrs Tessa Holland (Thurs)
Administration:	Mrs Connie Cornwill
	Mrs Deanne Fitzgerald (Mon)
Yr 5/6 Classroom Teachers:	Mrs Tessa Holland (Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri) (new)
	Miss Denise Horner (Thurs)
Yr 4 Classroom Teachers:	Mrs Elizabeth Mathews (Mon, Thurs & Fri)
	Mrs Mary Guastalegname (Tues & Wed)
Yr 2/3 Classroom Teacher:	Miss Jodie Russell (new)
Yr F/1 Classroom Teacher:	Miss Daniella Romano
Learning Support Officers:	Mrs Sidonie Shields(F/1)
	Mrs Christine Christodoulou (Yr 2/3)
	Mrs Connie Velardo (Yr 4)
	Mrs Marta Llorens Martin (Yr 5/6)
Physical Education Teacher:	Miss Denise Horner
Digital Technologies Teacher:	Miss Shruti Lad
Music Teacher:	Mrs Therese Hughes
Science Teacher:	Mrs Therese Hughes
Japanese Teacher:	Mrs Pippa Murray (new)
Intervention Teacher:	Miss Shruti Lad (Tues & Wed)
Mental Health Leader:	Miss Lucy Vassallo (Wed & Thurs)

Dates to Note for the Next Fortnight

Tues 4th Feb:	9:15am – Beginning of the Year School Mass (All welcome)
Wed 5th Feb:	No school for Foundation students
Fri 7th Feb:	3:00 pm – Assembly (All welcome)
Tues 11th Feb:	SAFER INTERNET DAY
Wed 12th Feb:	No school for Foundation Students
Thurs 13th Feb:	5:30 pm – Welcome Picnic and Information Evening (More details in the newsletter)
Fri 14th Feb:	3:00 pm – Assembly (All welcome) Newsletter Published



Term Dates 2025

Term Starts	Term Ends
Term 1 Staff: Tuesday 28th January Yr 1-6 students: Wednesday 29th January Foundation students: Thursday 30th February	Friday 4th April at 1:00 pm
Term 2 Staff & Students: Tuesday 22nd April	Friday 4th July at 1:00 pm
Term 3 Staff & Students: Monday 21st July	Friday 19th September at 1:00 pm
Term 4 Staff & Students: Monday 6th October	Students: Tuesday 16th December at 3:25 pm Staff: TBC

School Closure Days

The school will be closed for students on the following dates:

Term 1	Monday 10th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Term 2	Monday 21st April Friday 25th April Thursday 29th May Monday 9th June	Easter Monday Public Holiday ANZAC Day Public Holiday Staff Professional Learning King's Birthday Public Holiday
Term 3	Thursday 28th August	Staff Professional Learning
Term 4	Monday 3rd November Tuesday 4th November	Report Writing Day Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Welcome to our new Foundation Students for 2025



Special welcome to our new Foundation students for 2025!

They had a fun-filled first day in F/1, where they were welcomed by Miss Romano, Sid and their Year 1 classmates.

We look forward to getting to know them all throughout this year.

ICT Acceptable Usage Policy & ICT User Agreement

Information was sent home earlier this week with each student regarding the ICT Acceptable Usage Policy & ICT User Agreement.

Please ensure that you have read each document. The ICT User Agreement is to be signed by both students and parents/caregivers and returned to school as soon as possible.



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Daily Timetable

We kindly remind you of the importance of ensuring your child arrives at school on time each morning. A punctual start to the day sets the tone for focused learning and helps your child make the most of their school experience. Morning routines often include key learning activities that support academic progress and social connections with peers.

We greatly appreciate your support in helping your child arrive on time, ready to learn and engage with the day ahead.

Time	Task	Note
8:30-8:45 am	Staff in classrooms	Gates open & School Leaders on duty
8:45-8:55 am	Students enter the classroom	Unpack, Get ready for the day, Morning Prayer
8:55-10:55 am	Learning Block 1	X 2 hours
10:55-11:05 am	Eating Time	In classroom
11:05-11:25 am	Lunch 1st Duty	2 x staff on Yard Duty
11:25-11:45 am	Lunch 2nd Duty	2 x staff on Yard Duty
11:45-1:45 pm	Learning Block 2	X 2 hours
1:45-1:55 pm	Eating Time	In classroom
1:55-2:10 pm	Recess 1st Duty	2 x staff on Yard Duty
2:10-2:25 pm	Recess 2nd Duty	2 x staff on Yard Duty
2:25-3:25 pm	Learning Block 3	X 1 hour
3:25 pm	Bell rings	Teachers walk students outside for dismissal

COMMUNICATION

As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining strong communication between home and school, we would like to share some helpful guidelines for emailing your child's teacher. Clear and effective communication plays a vital role in supporting student success, and these protocols will ensure your inquiries and concerns are handled efficiently.

Use a Clear Subject Line: Ensure the subject line of your email clearly indicates the purpose of your message. This helps teachers identify and prioritise emails for a timely response.

Maintain a Professional Tone: Use a polite and respectful tone in your emails. Positive and professional communication strengthens the partnership between home and school.

Include Your Child's Details: Always include your child's full name and year level in your message. This is especially important if you have multiple children at the school and ensures teachers can respond accurately.

Be Specific: Provide detailed information about your concerns or questions. Specific examples, dates, or context can assist teachers in understanding and addressing your inquiry effectively.

Suggest Availability: If you need to arrange a meeting or phone call, propose times that work for you. This helps streamline scheduling and ensures a productive discussion.

Allow Time for Responses: Please remember that teachers are busy teaching throughout the day and may not be able to reply to emails immediately. If your matter is urgent, we encourage you to contact the school directly via phone at 9314 6271.

Respect Confidentiality: Be mindful of privacy and avoid sharing sensitive information about other students or families in your correspondence.

We value your role in your child's education and appreciate your cooperation in following these guidelines. Working together, we can create a positive and productive environment for all students.

Please find below the email addresses for the staff at Annunciation.

Daniella Romano – F/1 teacher
dromano@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Jodie Russell – Yr 2/3 teacher
jrussell@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Mary Guastalegname – Yr 4 teacher
mguastalegname@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Elizabeth Mathews – Yr 4 teacher
emathews@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Tessa Holland – Yr 5/6 teacher/Literacy Leader
tholland@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Therese Hughes – Science/Music teacher
thughes@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Denise Horner – PE teacher/5/6 teacher (Thurs)
dhorner@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Pippa Murray – Japanese teacher
pmurray@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Shruti Lad – Digital Technologies/Intervention Teacher
slad@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Lucy Vassallo – MHiPS Leader
lvassallo@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Connie Cornwill – Administration
ccornwill@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Seán Walshe – Deputy Principal/Learning Diversity Leader/Wellbeing Leader
swalshe@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

Anna Yorston – Principal/Religious Education Leader
principal@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card for the 2025 year, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The allowance amount for primary aged children is \$150 per year.

Applications for the CSEF can be collected from the school office. We encourage families to submit these to the school office as soon as possible.

HOW TO APPLY: New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2024, you do not need to complete an application form in 2025, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. You only need to complete an application form (AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OFFICE) if any of the following changes have occurred:

new student enrolments;

- your child has started or changed schools in 2025 or you did not apply in 2024.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number,
- or new siblings commencing at the school in 2025.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

SCHOOL FEES STATEMENTS

Statements for this year's school fees will be sent home next week. If you wish to pay your fees by direct debit please see Connie at the office, so arrangements can be made.

PARENT REMINDERS

Just a friendly reminder to all families that supervision on the yard begins at 8:30am. A staff member will unlock gates and will supervise students. All parents **MUST** remain with their child/ren until the staff member unlocks the gates.

Also, please note that we ask that **NO HOT DRINKS** are brought into the school yard at the beginning and the end of the day as these can present a major safety risk to the children.

WELCOME PICNIC & INFORMATION SESSION – THURSDAY 13th FEBRUARY

This is an opportunity for you to meet other families in the school and your child/ren's classroom teacher.

We'll start the night in the school yard with a family picnic (BYO) followed by an information session in the classroom. In these sessions teachers will discuss the curriculum, expectations, homework etc. You will also be able to ask questions. We will stagger the sessions for families that need to attend more than one. Please note that as this is a school event, **NO ALCOHOL** is permitted.

Sessions will be as follows:

F-1 session: 6:00pm
Yr 2/3 session: 6:15pm
Yr 4 session: 6:30pm
Yr 5/6 session: 6:45pm

Each session will run for approximately 15 mins. Toddlers are to remain with their parents. School aged students can remain in the yard to be supervised by staff.



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SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2025

Our Yr 3 students who are baptised Catholics will be celebrating the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist this year.

Our Yr 6 students who are baptised Catholics and who have previously celebrated the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This Sacrament is a Sacrament of Initiation and follows Baptism and Eucharist in confirming your child as a full member of the Church.

Reconciliation Y 3	First Eucharist (Yr 3)	Confirmation (Yr 6)
Parent/Student Workshop Tuesday 4th March 7:00 pm at Annunciation, Brooklyn	Parent/Student Workshop Wednesday 30th April 7:00 pm at Corpus Christi, Kingsville	Parent/Student Workshop Tuesday 6th May 7:00 pm at St Augustine's, Yarraville
Sacrament Thursday 20th March 6:00 pm Annunciation Church, Brooklyn	Sacrament Masses over 2 weekends in May 17/5 & 18/5 24/5 & 25/5	Sacrament Sunday 1st June 2:00 pm at St Augustine's, Yarraville

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Also, please note that we ask that **NO HOT DRINKS** are brought into the school yard at the beginning and the end of the day as these can present a major safety risk to the children.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please ensure that all children are wearing the correct school uniform. Sports uniform is only to be worn on Fridays. Our school uniform can be purchased through the school office. A strict uniform policy will operate as it is imperative that students wear the school uniform with pride.

Parents are asked to support the school ensuring that children are always in full school uniform. Students are reminded that school hats are to be worn in Term 1 and Term 4.

ALLERGIES

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that is potentially life-threatening. The most common causes of anaphylaxis in schools are food and insect allergies. The only way to prevent allergic reactions is to avoid being exposed to the allergen.

Our school is supporting students at risk of anaphylaxis in the following ways:

- training staff,
- encouraging students with food allergy to wash their hands before and after eating,
- encouraging students to wash their hands after eating something their classmate/friend is allergic to,
- teaching students not to share food with friends who have food allergy,
- teaching students the importance of getting help immediately if their friend with allergy looks sick,
- educating students about allergies and anaphylaxis, and
- teaching students that teasing someone with an allergy is not acceptable behaviour.

Food allergy is now common in school aged children. Children can be allergic to any food, and it is not possible to completely remove all foods from our school. To help manage food allergies, our school is following the National Allergy Strategy Best Practice Guidelines (2021) which do not recommend banning foods as this is difficult to enforce and can bring a false sense of safety.

However as we have several students who have allergies to nuts and/or eggs we do ask that you refrain from sending nuts or eggs to school. Some of the allergies to these products are caused by touching it. This is difficult to monitor so we feel it safest that we avoid these products as much as possible. These items include: nuts in their raw form, boiled eggs and other whole egg products such as quiche/frittatas etc.

FOOD SHARING

It is important to minimise the risk to students at this school who have allergies and anaphylactic reactions. All members of the school community need to be aware that students are not to swap or share food and can only eat food provided or approved by their parents/caregivers.

When children celebrate a birthday, food items are not permitted for the whole class, e.g. a birthday cake or a container of cupcakes, lollies etc.,. This applies to all foods. In place of food, parents can provide students with a different experience, an item or an unusual treat, i.e. party hats, drink bottle to keep, balloons, pencils, etc. There is no expectation that party gifts are provided.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING

Parents and Friends meetings are held twice per Term on a Wednesday afternoon (2:30pm) in the Open Space. These are very informal meetings, more of a social catch up with afternoon tea. It is an opportunity for you to support in planning fundraising events for the school. Please consider coming along when we do get them up and running as it is a wonderful way to meet other families. (Toddlers/babies most welcome).

Our first meeting for 2025 will be on Wednesday 19th February.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Children who turn 5 years of age by 30th April 2026 are eligible to enrol in Foundation 2026. If you know of anyone who has a child that is eligible to start school next year, let them know about our Open Days.

- Monday 24th February
- Monday 24th March
- Wednesday 14th May
- Thursday 5th June



CLASSROOM CUISINE – SCHOOL LUNCHES

Lunch orders resume on Wednesday 5th February. Lunch Orders are on WEDNESDAYS only!!

We have engaged the services of Classroom Cuisine as an option for families to purchase lunch for their child/ren.

If you log on to Classroom Cuisine website, you can then view the menu.

ALL orders are online and will be delivered to the school prior to lunch. You need to register before ordering. www.classroomcuisine.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: WE SEND THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER VIA THE AUDIRI APP. PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE APP ASAP. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WE CAN TALK YOU THROUGH IT.



The free Audiri school app offers parents a convenient way to stay up-to-date with the school calendar, last-minute forms, newsletters, all school communications, and even make cashless payments. With Audiri, you can get started in just a few minutes by following these simple steps:

1. Open the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store and search for 'Audiri'. Install the app.
2. Create an account and follow the prompts. Click 'Sign up'. Enter your email address, create a password and click on 'Sign up'. A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your account. Open the confirmation email and confirm your account.
3. Open the app, and click 'Add/Remove'. Type your school's name and press enter.
4. Tap the + icon to add. Now you can see your school, under My Schools & Services.



Search Audiri in the app store



audiri.com.au



MUSIC BUS PROGRAM

The Music Bus Program will recommence at Annunciation for 2025.

Classes offered are:

- Keyboard (P-6)
- Ukulele (P-6)
- Drums (Yr 1-6)
- Guitar (Y2-6)
-

Lessons are:

- * 30 minute duration - once per week
- * be held in the hi tech music classroom on wheels on our site
- * cost \$20 per week (\$22 drums) payable by the term on commencement

If you wish to take part please complete this expression of interest form asap

[Music Bus Program - Expression of Interest Form](#)

Get on and Rock! At Your School!



The Music Bus brings music education and fun to your school.

ABOUT The MUSIC BUS

The Music Bus visits over 300 schools a week, bringing music into the lives of over 5,000 students across Australia.

The Music Bus is the classroom (the bus!), teacher, instruments and curriculum all in one complete package - and it's at your school.

Made up of weekly half hour lessons, The Music Bus is fun, engaging and will inspire your child each and every week.

our programs

The Music Bus offers modern and rock-style courses, using well-known songs to engage students at all ability levels. High quality instruments are provided and our experienced teachers use extensive backing tracks, developing confidence, rhythm and teamwork.

Cost: \$20 per weekly 30 min lesson (Drums \$22)
*Lessons paid by the term on commencement



BOOK NOW - phone 1300 168 742 or visit www.themusicbus.com.au

Annunciation Before & After School Care – Daily – 7:00–8:30 am & 3:25–6:00 pm



Annunciation Brooklyn Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

Ensuring every child can flourish and achieve their fullest potential.

MACSEYE is a new approved provider, established by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools to offer a high quality Outside Schools Hours Care (OSHC) service, with a strong link to your school.

We believe in providing a safe and inclusive environment where every child can thrive. Our dedicated educators will support your child to explore their interests and choose how they spend their play time. Children can choose from a range of resources, including art and craft, games, and outdoor sports activities. We also have cozy, quiet spaces for anyone needing some down time.

There's also always a range of healthy foods available to help kids stay energised, and active.

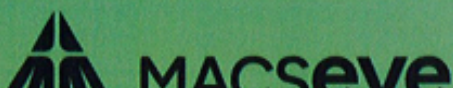
OSHC program

- For 5–12 year olds
- Monday to Friday [term time]
- Before School – 7.00am – 8.30am
- After School – 3.30pm – 6.00pm

OSHC cost per session

- **Before School Care**
(Permanent) – \$22.00
(Casual) – \$27.00
- **After School Care**
(Permanent) – \$29.00
(Casual) – \$34.00

ENROL TODAY!



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WORKS Notification

6 DECEMBER 2024



West Gate Freeway Surfacing – Millers Road to Williamstown Road

When we'll be working

24/7 from 9pm 6 January to April 2025
Work hours are day and night

What we'll be doing

The West Gate Tunnel Project will be doing surfacing and construction works along the West Gate Freeway between Millers Road and Williamstown Road.

These works require long-term ramp and lane closures for our crews to safely complete these works.

The construction activities include but are not limited to:

- Removal of remaining temporary asphalt
- Final surfacing of the freeway and ramps
- Final line marking in some areas
- Signage installation
- Barrier installation and painting
- Bridge expansion joint installation
- Electronic system works.

Changes to the way you travel

- Traffic conditions will change throughout these works. Please be aware of advisory and speed signs.
- Vehicles will be diverted around the freeway works so our crews can safely complete construction.

Impacts

- 24/7 construction activity and vehicles moving in and out of the area.
- Lighting will be angled away from homes whenever possible when we're working at night.
- You may notice construction noise, including intermittent noise at night. Depending on the works, the West Gate Tunnel Project team will be in contact with residents directly.
- West Gate Freeway ramp and lane closures.

Additional impacts

A full outbound closure of the West Gate Freeway between Williamstown Road and Millers Road will be required overnight on **Monday 6 and Monday 13 January 2025 from 10.30pm to 5am** in order to setup these works.

We will also require further outbound and inbound overnight closures of the West Gate Freeway between Williamstown Road and Millers Road throughout 2025 to complete works.

Please refer to the big build website for specific details surrounding these disruptions.

Visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au/disruptions

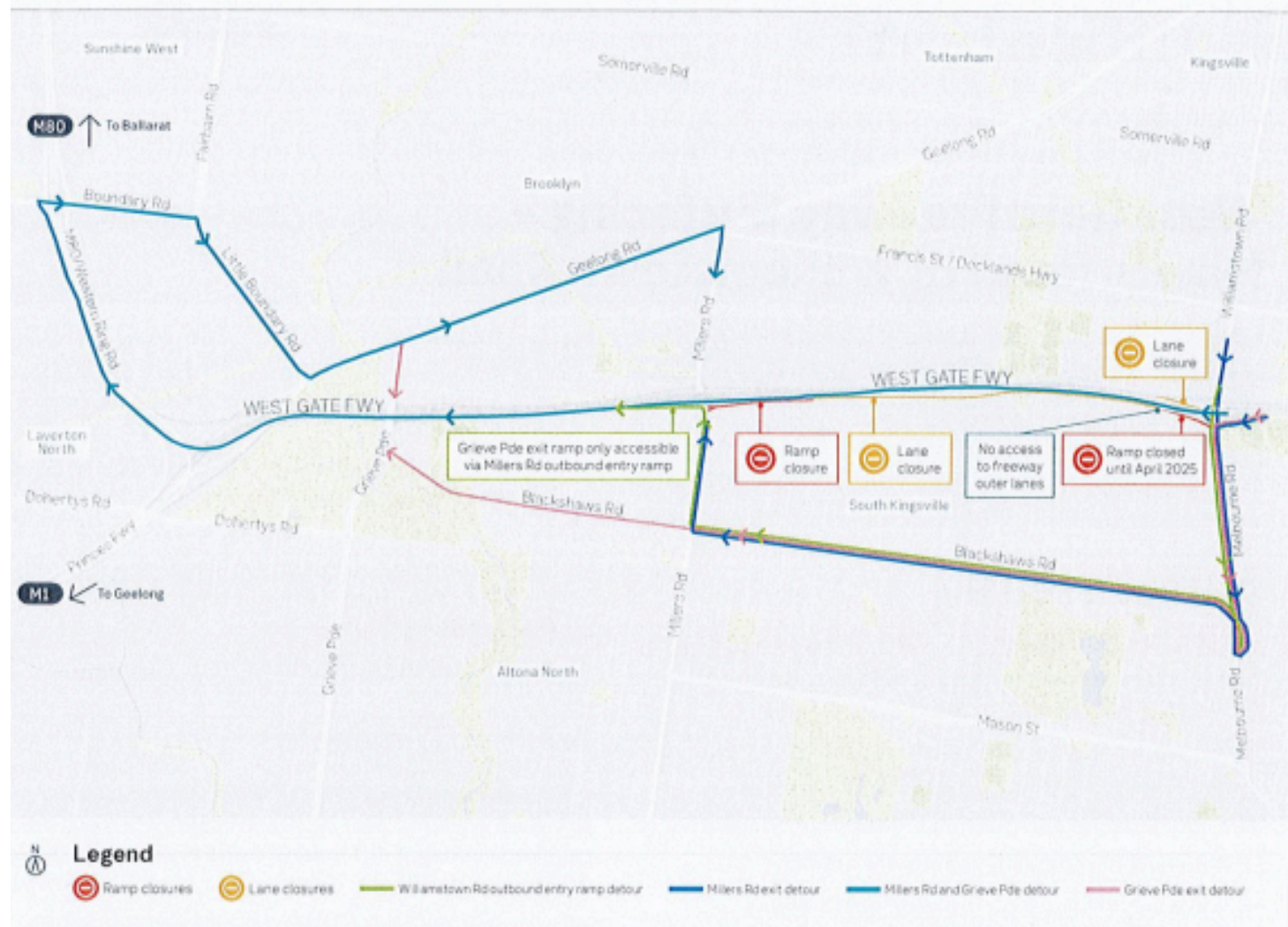
What's upcoming

Williamstown Road outbound entry ramp will be closed for an extended period of time until April 2025 to continue works on the outbound tunnel portal.

While we are a significant way through the West Gate Freeway widening and upgrade program, we anticipate further closures will be required in 2025.

This work may be subject to approvals and permits and may change due to site and weather conditions.

Traffic impacts: early-January to mid-February 2025



West Gate Freeway outbound lane closures

- Outbound outer lanes closed along the West Gate Freeway between Williamstown Road and Millers Road.
- Three inner outbound lanes travelling express from the West Gate Bridge to the Princes Freeway / M80 interchange will remain open.
- There will be no access to Millers Road or Grieve Parade directly from the West Gate Freeway outbound.

Millers Road outbound exit ramp closure

- Millers Road outbound exit ramp closed.
- Detour via Williamstown Road outbound exit ramp, Melbourne Road, Blackshaws Road.

Grieve Parade outbound exit ramp

- Grieve Parade outbound exit ramp only accessible via the Millers Road outbound entry ramp.
- Detour via Williamstown Road outbound exit ramp, Melbourne Road, Blackshaws Road.

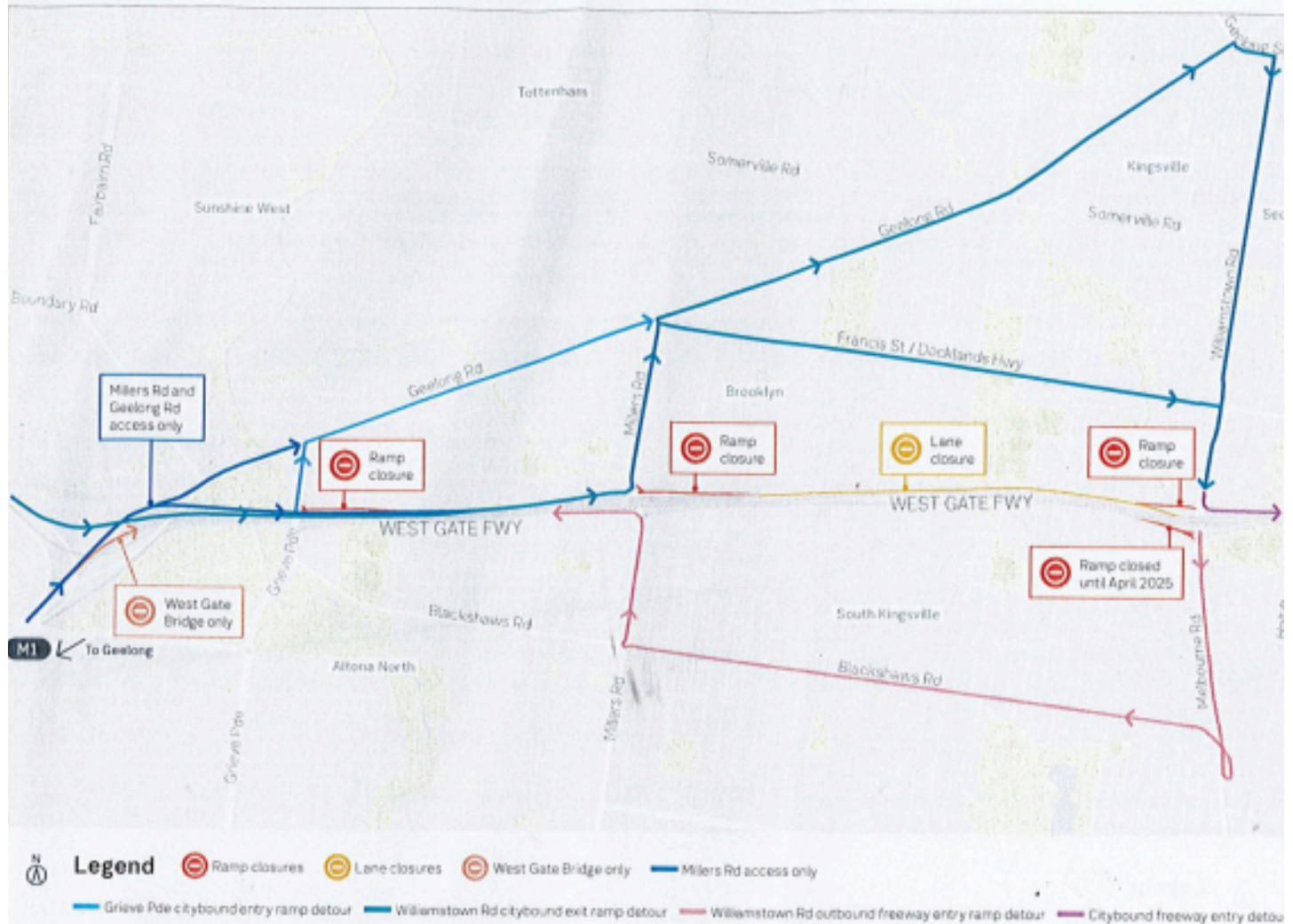
West Gate Freeway citybound lane closure

- West Gate Freeway citybound single lane closure at Williamstown Road.
- Drivers in the far-left lane will be required to exit at Williamstown Road.
- Stay in the right three lanes to continue to the West Gate Bridge.

Williamstown Road outbound entry ramp closure

- Williamstown Road outbound entry ramp closed until April 2025.
- Detour via Millers Road to enter the West Gate Freeway.

Traffic impacts: mid-February to early-March 2025



West Gate Freeway citybound lane closure

- Citybound outer lanes closed along the West Gate Freeway between Millers Road and Williamstown Road closed.
- Drivers will only be able to exit the West Gate Freeway citybound at Millers Road.
- Three express citybound lanes from the Princes Freeway / M80 interchange to the West Gate Bridge will remain open. Drivers must be in these lanes to travel to the West Gate Bridge.

Grieve Parade citybound entry ramp closure

- Grieve Parade citybound entry ramp closed.
- Detour via Geelong Road, Geelong Street, Williamstown Road, West Gate Freeway.

Millers Road citybound entry ramp closure

- Millers Road citybound entry ramp closed.
- Detour via Geelong Road, Geelong Street, Williamstown Road, West Gate Freeway.

Williamstown Road citybound exit ramp closure

- Williamstown Road citybound exit ramp closed.
- Detour via Millers Road, Geelong Road, Geelong Street, Williamstown Road.

Williamstown Road outbound entry ramp closure

- Williamstown Road outbound entry ramp closed until April 2025.
- Detour via Melbourne Road, Blackshaws Road, Millers Road outbound entry ramp.