



## Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) – FACT SHEET

Last updated Saturday 10 October 2020 at 12.00pm

The safety, health and wellbeing of our students, staff and their families is our primary concern.

We continue to take a highly precautionary approach based on the latest and best medical advice from the Australian Government Department of Health, the Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services, the School's risk management partner, SOS International, and our Senior Medical Officer, Professor Fergus Cameron.

Our decision-making has been contemplated deeply, and with due consideration of what is in the best interests of our community, especially given its unique, predominantly residential context as Australia's largest coeducational boarding school, with a student composition representing every state and territory, as well as 16 overseas countries.

### Term 4, 2020

We welcomed the safe return of students to our Bostock House, Corio, Timbertop and Toorak campuses for the commencement of Term 4 in adherence of the restrictions for metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria outlined in the Victorian Government's [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) roadmap](#).

Face-to-face classes are scheduled to resume across all year levels, all campuses from Monday 12 October in accordance with the Department of Education and Training (DET) [return to school Term 4 plan](#).

### COVID-19 Testing and Risk Mitigation

As was implemented in Terms 2 and 3, we are employing a range of preventative strategies to enable the continuation of on-campus learning and living in Term 4. These measures are campus-specific and include an emphasis on spatial distancing, excellent hygiene practices, daily temperature checks, wearing of face coverings/masks and the completion of our [Daily COVID-19 Health Questionnaire](#), as appropriate. We have extending weekend exeat/leave restrictions at Corio and cancelled the Term 4 exeat at Timbertop to reflect the high-risk residential setting at those campuses. We will continue to adapt our measures in the usual GGS two-week planning cycle and weekend exeat/leave restrictions at Corio will be reviewed during the course of Term 4.

As a proactive and preventative strategy within our high-risk boarding environment, students and staff at Corio and Timbertop were tested for COVID-19 and undertook a period of 'internal group isolation' until the receipt of a negative test result. Testing was conducted on-site through a private provider. All those test results were negative. This successful baseline testing provides confirmation that all students and staff were, as best as testing can determine, COVID-19 free at the time of testing. This testing is one really important mitigation measure to actively manage the risk of COVID-19 infection.