



Tuesday 28 January 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

Novel Coronavirus – Update #1 as at 3.00pm on 28 January 2020

As ever, the safety health and welfare of our students, staff and their families remain of paramount concern at GGS. As such, GGS will continue to follow the advice of the Australian Government Department of Health and the Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services.

We reiterate that as an effective means of managing the potential risk to our community, if your child has:

- **travelled to or from Wuhan City and the Hubei province (even if only transiting in an airport) or come into contact with a visitor from Wuhan City and the Hubei Province in the last fourteen (14) days; your child must be kept at home or reside with a Homestay Provider within Australia until they have been back in Australia for at least 14 days.**
- Please remain alert to symptoms related to a fever or respiratory symptoms including a cough, shortness of breath, rapid breathing, a sore throat, or a runny nose. You should make an appointment with your local doctor immediately. Before you go to the doctor, call ahead to inform them about your recent travel and your symptoms. Regardless of the doctor's assessment, please do not return to School until symptoms have cleared.
- Family members who fall into these parameters are not to visit our campuses or attend events either.
- Please utilise the usual absentee process if your child's start will be delayed.

Consistent with our usual practice, **prior to return to School, you will need to provide:**

- **A Health Provider Report which confirms that at the conclusion of the 14-day period, your child is well to return to School.**
- **If your child is diagnosed with the Novel Coronavirus, your doctor will notify the relevant Department of Health. You must inform the School and your child will require a Health Provider Report which indicates they no longer have the virus before returning to School.**
- The School will support students with a delayed start to minimise any impact on their learning.

Students who do not fall into one of the above groups (visited Wuhan City and the Hubei Province, or came into close contact with someone who did) but have travelled to China will be monitored by our Health Centre staff. If a student on campus becomes unwell, they will be temporarily quarantined within our health care facilities until their family or guardian can collect them. As is our usual practice, their return to School will be predicated on a completed Health Provider Report from their treating doctor.

Once again, thank you for your assistance as we strive to keep our community well and safe. Should you require further information, regular updates may be found at:

[Australian Government – Department of Health](#)

[Victorian Government – Department of Health and Human Services \(DHHS\)](#)

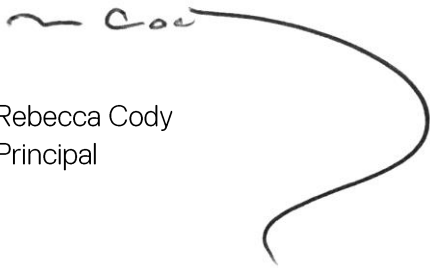
[Victorian Government – Department of Education](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

We encourage you to view these sites regularly; GGS updates will be via our website as required.

Our approach continues to be evidence-based as informed by proper authorities and credible sources: we are keeping a watching brief across both federal and state Department of Health advice, in addition to information from the School's risk management partner, SOS International, and our Senior Medical Officer, Professor Fergus Cameron. Again, we are following their advice, as well as taking further precautionary steps as outlined above.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

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