



Sunday 15 March 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

Notification of contact with confirmed cases COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #11 as at 12.45pm on Sunday 15 March

Our status remains unchanged from yesterday, Saturday 14 March, that at present, we have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our learning community; however, today we have received notification of student contact with confirmed cases.

The School works closely with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to identify and manage notifiable disease reporting.

It is our usual practice in the event of a notifiable disease to make a report to the DHHS and then to parents and guardians. Alternatively, the School may be contacted directly by the DHHS to inform us of a notifiable disease contact and to direct the School to respond accordingly.

Once the School has actioned reporting to the DHHS or acted upon a report received from the DHHS, we provide notification to our community. Appropriately, reporting to parents and guardians is required to be made in a manner which safeguards the privacy of those students who are the subject of such reports.

On Sunday 15 March 2020 at 8.00am, a Timbertop student who had previously been identified as low risk due to indirect contact with a diagnosed COVID-19 case and was subsequently undergoing daily temperature checks since return from exeat, attended at the Timbertop Health Centre reporting possible early symptoms.

On Sunday 15 March at 8.38am, our Head of Campus at Timbertop was notified that following testing, a parent of a second Timbertop student had received a positive diagnosis of COVID-19. This parent attended the Timbertop Parents' Cocktail Party on 6 March 2020 and had close contact with their child over the exeat weekend.

Further, on Sunday 15 March at 9.59am, the School was contacted by the DHHS and informed that through contact tracing, a Senior School student at our Corio Campus had been identified as having been in contact with a diagnosed case of COVID-19. Immediate steps were taken for this student to be isolated at the Kennedy Medical Centre. The student reported possible early symptoms of COVID-19.

All three students have been isolated in accordance with established practices at our Health Centres and arrangements are in place for their collection from School. All parents of the relevant Timbertop Units and Senior School House have been informed of the situation by their Head of Campus.

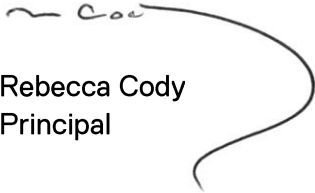
Further to [Update #9 on Friday evening](#), if given these evolving circumstances you wish to collect your child from our Timbertop or Corio campuses ahead of our close on Wednesday 18 March, you are welcome to do so via usual leave protocols.

The DHHS advises that as a part of its contact tracing processes in relation to confirmed cases, it will contact any families directly if deemed to be at high risk.

Our practices in relation to general hygiene, cleaning and food handling continue to be heightened across the residential contexts of Corio and Timbertop. Since last Thursday we have also taken proactive measures to reduce numbers gathering in any one place and remain focused on essential learning and activities.

We will continue to liaise with the DHHS throughout the day and will update our community as is prudent and practicable. We value your understanding that staff resourcing at this time is dedicated to regular student programme supervision, keeping abreast of the changing situation and the prioritisation of planning for our remote learning initiatives.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

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