



Friday 15 January 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School (GGS),

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #2 as at 4.00pm on Friday 15 January

As we near the start of a new school year, I am conscious that amongst the excitement of new beginnings, there can also be feelings of uncertainty and anxiety, particularly for our interstate families in New South Wales and Queensland, where there are currently restrictions for travel into Victoria. Given the continued low level of community transmission of COVID-19 across Australia, we remain hopeful that Premier Daniel Andrews will be able to implement his plan to ease Victoria's border restrictions "as soon as possible".

New South Wales (NSW) and Queensland (QLD) Families

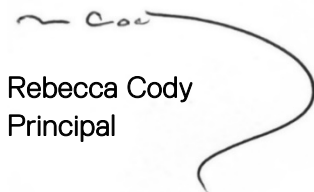
If for some extraordinary reason, the existing border restrictions are not eased before the start of Term 1, we are continuing to communicate directly with the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) regarding the movement of students from NSW and QLD. We have sought guidance as to an applicable exemption for students travelling from NSW to Victoria by bus via means of a sterile corridor and also what requirements the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) may have with regard to testing prior to travel to our Corio and Timbertop campuses. The Department has acknowledged the time sensitivities of such advices and we shall communicate further to families once a response is to hand.

If you currently reside in a [designated "red zone"](#) and this ongoing uncertainty troubles you, you may wish to explore alternative avenues, including, if at all possible, moving within your state to an orange or green zone for the required period prior to travelling to Victoria. A reminder too that communicating early and negotiating plans with your family's designated Victorian Guardian or COVID Emergency Contact is prudent; mapping potential scenarios together and discussing these with your child/children is a helpful habit for their wellbeing. Whatever eventuates, our students can remain assured that they belong with us at GGS and that our team will work tirelessly to enable a safe transition to commence their year of learning and living together.

COVID-19 Related Queries

As per our 2020 practice, please contact C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au should you seek assistance with COVID related matters. Given the nature of the pandemic, it may well be too soon to have answers for a number of queries; you can trust that we will continue to be timely and transparent with our communication.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal