



Thursday 6 February 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

Novel Coronavirus – Update #5 as at 10.00am on 6 February 2020

We continue to closely monitor the development of the Novel Coronavirus outbreak and remain alert but not alarmed about potential risk to our community.

Currently, some students remain away from the School. In most instances, families have chosen to self-isolate but there are students who are away from School because of travel to mainland China or contact with a person who visited Hubei Province.

To ensure consistency and a safe return to our community following self-isolation, please note the following requirements for the return of all students to School:

- Please provide your child's Head of House or Classroom Teacher with the date of your child's proposed return to School;
- Upon arrival at School, please have your child report to the relevant campus Health Care Centre or to the nurse on duty. This will be to the Kennedy Health Centre at Corio, the Timbertop Health Centre or the nurse on duty at our Bostock House and Toorak campuses;
- The nursing staff will inform the Head of House and Head of Campus that your child has returned to School;
- If your child was in Australia prior to 1 February 2020 and has not had exposure to a confirmed Novel Coronavirus case or travelled to the Hubei Province, they will not be required to provide a completed Health Provider Report upon their return to School;
- If your child was in Australia prior to 1 February 2020 but had travelled to mainland China and it has not been 14 days since their return, they must be seen by the nurse or applicable Health Care Centre for daily observations until the 14-day period since their return has concluded;
- If your child was in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020, in transit to Australia from mainland China on or after 1 February 2020, or arrived in Australia on or after 1 February 2020, they must self-isolate for 14 days from the day they arrived in Australia and, upon their return to School must provide to the nurse or applicable Health Care Centre, a Health Provider Report completed by a doctor registered in Australia which confirms they are fit to be at School and have no clinical evidence of Novel Coronavirus infection.

For those students who are off campus, arrangements will be made for work to be sent for completion and submission to teaching staff to support their continuing learning.

Beyond our immediate coordinated response, consideration must now be given to future planning to ensure arrangements are in place to best support the safety and wellbeing our students across the upcoming Exeat and the conclusion of Term 1.

We need to give consideration to the impact of the Australian government's travel restrictions with respect to the upcoming exeat (6-9 March 2020 for Corio students and 7-9 March 2020 for Timbertop students) and end of term arrangements (27 March 2020). In the event that the current restrictions are still in place, students will be unable to travel to China during this time and then return to Australia.

We request that families residing in Hong Kong or Macau also consider this advice in the event that travel restrictions are extended to these regions. We encourage all families to make plans well in advance in consultation with guardians or homestay providers.

- The nature of such arrangements should then be communicated to your child's Head of House no later than 24 February 2020 (exeat) and 13 March 2020 (end of term arrangements) in order to confirm such planning is in place.
- We also seek confirmation from homestay providers that for the upcoming exeat, when accommodating our students, you will not have other students in your care who will be subject to a period of self-isolation at that time. Please kindly advise our Overseas Student Officer, Emily Scarlett (escarlett@ggs.vic.edu.au), by 24 February 2020.

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 \(DHHS\)](#)

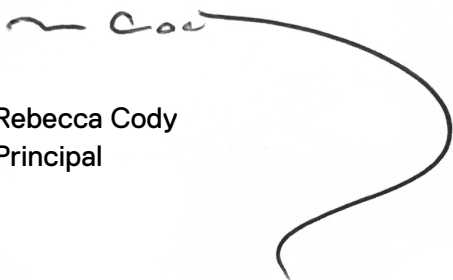
[Victorian Government – Department of Education](#)

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

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

Translations of our advice will continue to be provided; Update #5 is currently being translated into Mandarin and Cantonese.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

50 Biddlecombe Avenue, Corio, Victoria, Australia 3214
T +61 3 5273 9247 E Principal@ggs.vic.edu.au

BOSTOCK HOUSE | CORIO | TIMBERTOP® | TOORAK

CRICOS 00143G ABN 92 004 971 500 www.ggs.vic.edu.au