Friday 20 March 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #15 as at 10.30am on Friday 20 March

Status Change – the School has been notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our learning community; we have also received notification of an additional Timbertop parent who has received a positive diagnosis of COVID-19.

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

Corio
This morning, Friday 20 March 2020, at 7.45am, the School received notification that following testing, a Senior School boarding student received a positive diagnosis of COVID-19. All parents of the Senior School House have been informed of this development by the Head of Campus.

As previously noted:
• as part of its contact tracing processes for confirmed COVID-19 cases, the DHHS will contact families directly if they are deemed to be at high risk.

In order to assist with the required contact tracing for this diagnosis, the School is providing information to the DHHS of the configuration of the boarding arrangements in the House, the classes attended by the student, as well as their co-curricular and sport activities.

Timbertop
Additionally, on Thursday, 19 March 2020 at 7.22pm, the School received notification that following testing, a parent of a Timbertop student received a positive diagnosis of COVID-19. This parent had attended the Timbertop Parents’ Cocktail Party where they were in contact with another parent who had also received a positive diagnosis.

As at the time of writing:
• the School has received notification of five parents who attended the Timbertop Parents’ Cocktail Party who have received a positive diagnosis of COVID-19;
• these parents had close contact with their children (students at both Timbertop and Corio) over the exeat weekend;
• the DHHS will contact families directly if they are deemed to be at high risk;
• in order to assist this process, the School will provide information to the DHHS of those parents who attended the Timbertop Parents’ Cocktail Party;
• it has been 14 days since the Timbertop Parents’ Cocktail Party, which was held on Friday 6 March; and
• the current official estimated range for the COVID-19 incubation period is 2-14 days.
Thank you
It is most helpful when families communicate with the School in an open and timely manner thereby allowing us to liaise directly with the DHHS and to maintain transparent and proactive communication in the interests of the safety and welling of our community.

We will provide a more comprehensive update later today. In the meantime, please refer to the Australian Government’s Department of Health website.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Cody
Principal