



Friday 24 April 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #23 as at 10.00am on Friday 24 April

Further to [Update #22](#), we remain cautiously optimistic about the slowing spread of COVID-19 in Australia and continue to prioritise the health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff as we endeavour to provide the most effective remote learning opportunities we can, whilst working fervently towards the resumption of on campus learning. Our scenario planning continues to focus on risk mitigation within our unique context.

Flu Vaccination

In preparation for the resumption of on campus learning, we are again encouraging flu vaccination for all students and their families. Whilst flu vaccinations will not prevent COVID-19 from developing, this proactive practice assists our community to lessen the burden of respiratory infections and medical services generally. We strongly recommend families to consider this step during Term 2, and especially those who have a history with respiratory complications.

Remote Learning @ GGS

Next week (Week 3 of Term 2), we enter Phase 2 of our Remote Learning @ GGS Programme. The associated changes are designed to provide more support for our students to be engaged and successful, as well as build their capacity to work independently.

Our plans have been developed after consultation and collaboration with schools all over the world. We are heeding the advice of those who have been offering remote learning for months. We are benefiting from their experiences and remain grateful for their collegial sharing in the best interests of effective learning and teaching.

For our secondary students (Years 7-12), there are three key elements of Phase 2:

- Zoom Sessions with teachers (as they currently exist) with a clear outline of the specific purpose and focus of each session;
- Course learning sequence published on OneNote, which outlines Learning Outcomes, provides learning resources and describes follow-up activities and tasks to be completed and deadlines for submission. Learning sequences are broken into periods of time (usually 1-2 weeks); and
- A Remote Learning Coach who will run a 20-minute check in at 8:35am each morning with their House-based Student Learning Group of between 8-13 students.

For our primary students (Prep-Year 6), we have adapted the Firefly Learning Platform to assist students to feel more connected to their teachers and peers, whilst allowing teachers to teach and interact with students in a variety of group sizes.

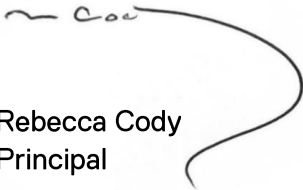
- The adaptations made to Firefly are designed to enhance the Remote Learning context to combine synchronous and asynchronous opportunities for students and teachers; and
- The use of Zoom sessions provides a medium for collaboration, socialising, learning and feedback.

As we review and initiate structural changes to Remote Learning @ GGS programmes, our intention will be to provide greater flexibility for our students and teachers, whilst maintaining opportunities for purposeful learning connections with each other through Zoom and Firefly.

Anzac Day

Once again, I extend a warm invitation for you and your family to join myself and Reverend Gordon for a [live stream of our Anzac Day Service](#) at Corio, from 8.30am on Saturday 25 April.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal