



Wednesday 30 June 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #23 as at 4.00pm on Wednesday 30 June

At a time when our community is enjoying opportunity for reconnection, restoration and rejuvenation, we acknowledge the impact of COVID-19 for many families and the need for clarity for the return to on campus learning and living for Term 3, 2021.

Return to Campus from Interstate

We acknowledge the imposition of current restrictions on travel to Victoria from many States and Territories in response to the most recent COVID-19 outbreaks across the country and appreciate deeply the resilience and patience of all our interstate students and families.

Designated Orange and Red Zone Locations

Whilst we remain hopeful the current designated Orange and Red Zones will be revised by the commencement of Term 3; we are seeking urgent advice from the Department of Health (DoH) and the Department of Education and Training as to the availability of an exemption to allow interstate students to return from designated Orange and Red Zones to undertake a **Phased Return to Boarding Quarantine Programme**.

This Programme is proposed to be initially facilitated at Avalon College, Lara and, once a negative COVID-19 test result is received, students will transfer to the Corio and Timbertop campuses (as applicable), under strict restrictions for the remainder of the 3- or 14-day quarantine period. Whilst we cannot presently confirm the availability of this **Phased Return to Boarding Quarantine Programme**; if it is approved it will require extensive planning including coordination of flights, transport and COVID-19 testing (prior to travel, on arrival and then at Day 13 of the Programme). The proposed phasing for safe and managed return of students will be prioritised based on Year level. This will see the phased return of interstate boarding students from designated Orange and Red Zones across the first week of Term 3 with the proposed programme being:

1. Year 12 boarding students and siblings (siblings cannot include Timbertop students);
2. Year 11 boarding students and siblings (siblings cannot include Timbertop students);
3. Year 10 boarding students and siblings (siblings cannot include Timbertop students);
4. All Year 9 Timbertop students;
5. Year 8 boarding students and siblings; and
6. Year 7 boarding students.

We acknowledge the patience of our interstate families as we work through these complex issues.

Given the **Phased Return to Boarding Quarantine Programme** is yet to be approved, we also encourage interstate families to consider applying for individual exemptions to allow for their child to return to Victoria prior to the commencement of Term 3, and self-quarantine for the required period at an alternative location with a parent/guardian or emergency contact. This exemption application would be made under clause 14(6) of the *Victorian Border Crossing Permit Directions (No 17)* and will need to be supported by a letter from the School. Families who wish to proceed with this option, thereby requiring a letter of support, can notify the

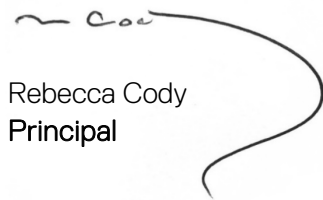
School via c19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au. When doing so, please provide the address in Victoria where this self-quarantine for the required period will be undertaken. An application for exemption may be made via [Victorian COVID-19 Border Entry](#).

The [summary of current interstate travel requirements](#), is provided by the School to assist with initial planning for return travel and seeks to provide a current source of information to facilitate travel to Victoria.

Next steps

As ever, the School will communicate swiftly and accurately with our community as the situation evolves and specific information will be provided to our families in designated Orange and Red Zones. Details in relation to the **Phased Return to Boarding Quarantine Programme** will be made immediately available if the School is able to obtain approval for the Programme. The [COVID-19 page](#) of the School website will be refreshed as required; we encourage you to check this site and thank you for continuing to direct all COVID-19 related queries to C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

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