



Monday 11 May 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

**COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #27 as at 4.00pm on Monday 11 May**

**RE: Anticipated Phased Resumption of On-campus Learning and Living**

Following Victorian Premier, [Daniel Andrews' announcement this morning](#) regarding the first stage of easing Victoria's COVID-19 restrictions, we continue to refine our plans for the resumption of on-campus learning. Whilst there was no timeline provided for schools, the Premier indicated that there is likely to be a gradual, staged resumption of face-to-face learning before the end of Term 2.

We are excited and well prepared for the return of students and staff at each of our campuses as soon as the Victorian Government determines it is reasonably safe to do so. Our Executive and Leadership Team have completed significant and detailed planning to identify, manage and mitigate the risks posed by COVID-19; particularly those risks that are unique to our context as Australia's largest coeducational boarding school. We are now liaising with the highest levels of Victoria's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to review and refine our Action Plans.

### **Essentials to Resume On-campus Learning and Living**

As detailed in [Update #26](#), once clearance is provided by the Premier and Chief Health Officer, it is our intention to proceed to a phased recommencement of on-campus learning and living. Such recommencement is contingent upon:

- School community acceptance of multiple levels of risk and layers of protection;
- informed consent from families by acceptance of COVID-19 specific Conditions of Return to On-Campus Learning and Living (re-enter willingly and enthusiastically within a number of constraints); and
- ready availability of ongoing asymptomatic testing.

### **Conditions of Return to On-campus Learning and Living**

[Update #26](#) outlined the Conditions of Return to On-campus Learning and Living, including the requirement for Corio and Timbertop students to self-isolate at home for a period of 14 days. In order to resume on-campus learning as promptly as possible once the Premier's timeline for schools is released, we recommend strongly that your child adheres to social distancing requirements and limits their activities to essential matters. The more cautious choices we make now, the better for a swift and safe return to campus. Our boarding communities represent particular risks and with your engagement in these requirements, we are striving to actively mitigate the risk of infection and the potential of reinfection cycles within our School.

### **Mid-term Exeat**

Our scheduled Mid-term Exeats will proceed as planned: for Bostock, Corio and Timbertop this is Monday 18 May, and at Toorak Campus the Queen's Birthday public holiday on Monday 8 June will be observed.

**Update #28**

The Premier indicated this morning that he will soon have more to say about schools. Once direction is provided about the timing of staged returns, we'll confirm our dates with you via Update #28. In the meantime, we will continue to work with staff and medical experts to review and refine our Action Plans.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody  
Principal

