



Tuesday 31 August 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #46 as at 9.00am on Tuesday 31 August

Public Exposure Sites – Corio

Further to [Update #45](#) published at 12.30pm on Saturday, the Corio operational staff member identified as having briefly visited a Tier 1 exposure site in Geelong has returned a negative COVID test result. The staff member will remain in quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure. I wish to acknowledge the calm and positive response by our students and staff on-site at Corio. As we have done throughout the pandemic, we continue to take a highly precautionary approach that prioritises the safety, health and wellbeing of our students, staff and their families. We have great faith in our COVIDSafe protocols and processes, which have served us well to date.

September School Holidays

As outlined in [Update #44](#), our Corio Campus will remain open across the September school holidays as an “authorised provider” (boarding school context) of residential services for Corio and Timbertop students:

- We are in the process of developing an age-appropriate school holiday programme that will reflect the current COVIDSafe settings and optimise study (revision) and adventure education opportunities (within prevailing Government restrictions and guidelines);
- The number of students attending the School holiday programme will be capped;
- Preference will be given to interstate and overseas students, Year 12 students and Year 11 students enrolled in a Unit 3 or 4 VCE subject;
- The programme will be available for the whole holiday period or otherwise, for two sessions:
 - Session 1: Friday, 17 September (am) to Saturday, 25 September (am); and
 - Session 2: Sunday, 26 September (am) to Monday, 4 October (am).
- Students entering the programme for Session 2 (or any date other than Friday 17 September 2021) will require a negative COVID-19 test to enter the School;
- Students can attend for part of the programme but the full cost of the applicable session will apply and students will be unable to re-enter the programme, should they choose to leave; and
- The break between Session 1 and 2 is to enable sufficient time for COVIDSafe cleaning protocols.

Costings are still being prepared and will be provided to families shortly. To help us plan, we invite families to please complete an [Expression of Interest](#) for your child to attend the School Holiday programme at the Corio Campus. Please respond by 12.00pm on Friday 3 September.

As previously noted, it is a blessing too that we are a highly connected and supportive community. In addition to the provision of a residential school holiday programme at Corio, we will support families to explore opportunities for students to reside with family, friends, guardians and COVID Emergency Contacts already in Victoria. We are also inviting all Victorian-based GGS families to volunteer if they are able to provide accommodation for students across the School holiday period. Please complete the [Offer of Provision of Holiday Accommodation](#) form if you are able to assist.

On-site attendance for Permitted Essential Assessments

The Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA) has confirmed that Victoria's Acting Chief Health Officer has approved Permitted Essential Assessments to be conducted on-site where they cannot be conducted remotely.

At this stage, Performing Arts studies have been prioritised due to performance examinations commencing on October 4, but we anticipate Sciences, Design & Technology and Visual Arts will be permitted to conduct on-site assessments in the near future. Consequently, we are preparing for the following permitted assessments to be conducted on-site:

- Theatre Studies SAC 4.3 on Wednesday 8 September; and
- Theatre Studies SAC 4.1 Part 2 on Tuesday 14 September.

Please note: all students returning to site to complete essential assessments are required to have a COVID test 72 hours prior to attending on-site.

Vaccinations

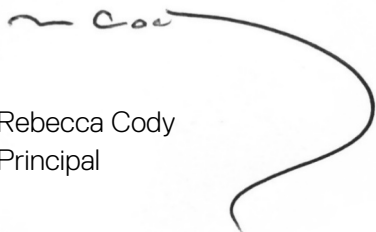
As referenced in recent Updates, we are continuing our planning for on-site Pfizer vaccinations at both Corio and Timbertop. We are currently working with RMIT Medical Hub and Mansfield Vaccination Hub to secure a sufficient supply of Pfizer vaccines to establish on-site vaccination hubs at Corio and Timbertop respectively. We will communicate further details as our planning progresses; importantly, we are working within Government guidelines for eligibility and supply.

Please note: vaccinations are voluntary and only administered with consent (being parental consent, or student consent for 18-year-olds who are legally able to consent to medical treatment).

Next Steps

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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