



Monday 3 August 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

### **COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #48 as at 1.00pm on Monday 3 August**

Last night, I spoke to our Corio students at a [Whole Campus Student Assembly](#) about our response to the Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews' announcements regarding the declaration of a State of Disaster across Victoria and changes to restrictions for [metropolitan Melbourne](#) and [regional Victoria](#). I thanked our students for the way they have adapted and demonstrated maturity across an extraordinary three weeks of Term 3. I reiterated that at this time of great uncertainty that we all have questions. Unfortunately, we don't have all the answers yet.

As we await further advice and instruction, we can confirm the following:

#### **Day Students**

- All Day Boarders' buses will be leaving Corio at 5.30pm this evening.
- We have been directed not to have Day students on-site at our campuses tomorrow. We must support the Government's call to limit movement in the community. As such, Tuesday 4 August will be a break in routine; Senior School will of course have their learning sequences and access to OneNote. We suggest that the time be used wisely to establish learning spaces at home and set the environment for success.
- Our primary educators across Bostock House, Corio and Toorak will be collaborating tomorrow to enable effective cross-campus initiatives and educational programmes for all.
- We are still awaiting details on the categories of essential workers whose children must be provided with on-site supervision at schools from Wednesday 5 August.
- Our donated cloth masks will be distributed from this afternoon. We will focus on Day students at Corio first (as they are leaving tonight), and will organise distribution to other campuses shortly.

#### **Boarders at Corio and Timbertop**

We understand that with the move to Remote Learning@GGS, families need to make their own decisions about their children and where they are to be located for the next six weeks. We are currently awaiting State Government advice as to our exemption requests for boarding to continue at Corio and Timbertop. We are in discussions with the State Government and anticipate an announcement later today by the Premier.

For those parents who wish to make arrangements for their children to travel home, please forward any requests for correspondence from the School to assist with applications for border exemptions to [C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au](mailto:C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au); we will process these as expediently as possible. In order to provide such exemptions, please provide the following information:

1. Full names and dates of birth of student/s travelling;
2. Full street address in your child's home State to which they will be travelling; and
3. The arrangements in place for the transportation of your child from campus.

For **South Australian** residents, we confirm the School has today communicated directly with both South Australia Health and the South Australian Police COVID Border Control. We are confident that if required, a strategy will be in place for exemptions to be sought for our South Australian students. We will work with other State governments as required to assist student movement, should this be required.

### **Year 12s**

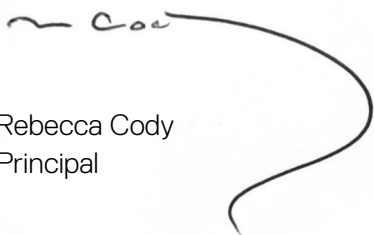
We can also confirm that the GAT (General Achievement Test) will be rescheduled from Wednesday 9 September to Wednesday 7 October. The schedule for the VCE examinations and release of results will remain as previously advised.

### **More News Later Today**

We expect to hear more by this evening and will continue to update you. Again, your patience and messages of encouragement and support are truly sustaining; thank you.

I note the World Health Organization (WHO) speaks of this global pandemic as a once in a century crisis. This leaves us to dig in and find a once in a century response – together we can make it an exceptional response by and for GGS.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Cody', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca Cody  
Principal

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#### **Principal's Study**

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