



Wednesday 5 August 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #51 as at 6.30pm on Wednesday 5 August

Boarding – Corio Campus

We are excited and well prepared for our Corio campus boarding provision to remain open (for on-site work) and for our boarding students to remain on-site. We have received confirmation from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that we are legally required to move to remote learning. The transition to the Remote Learning@GGS 2.0 programme for boarding students on-site at Corio will be enhanced by the energy and moral support of peers and residential staff, collaborative learning opportunities and shared learning common areas, all operating within Stage 3 restrictions and COVID Safe requirements. Students will also be supported by wellbeing and pastoral care programmes, with structured physical and recreation activities, and freedom of movement (wearing masks) across our 250-hectare site.

We will continue to evolve our programmes and practices at Corio to mitigate risk whilst optimising the learning and living arrangements for our students; at all times working within Stage 3 restrictions and COVID Safe requirements. To most effectively care for our students, we may need to consolidate Boarding Houses and limit contact between Houses. We must also continue our restrictions on leave and as such, boarding students will only be able to leave campus for essential medical matters.

Heads of House have been asked to establish which students are departing and which students are choosing to remain on campus. Please complete a REACH leave request as soon as possible if you wish for your child to leave campus. If your child is remaining on campus, please also notify your child's Head of House by email.

Departure from Corio - buses

For those students returning home, we need to implement a carefully planned departure process. This is important to maintain the integrity of our risk mitigation processes and protect all students and staff remaining on campus.

At the end of last Term, and again at the start of this Term, multiple buses were very successfully utilised to transport students to and from campus.

If your child is travelling to Melbourne, we encourage you to reserve a seat for the bus to our Toorak Campus, which will depart Corio by 8.45am on Saturday 8 August. Head of Campus, Steven Church, will provide further details on Toorak bus reservations shortly.

Departure from Corio – Parent Collection

All boarding students who are unable to travel by bus should please adhere to the collection schedule outlined below:

Time	Location	House
9.00am	Biddlecombe Avenue – in front of the Middle School office	Garnett
	Biddlecombe Avenue – in front of EM	EM
	The Hermitage gates	The Hermitage
10.30am	Biddlecombe Avenue – behind the Middle School boarding houses	Barrabool, Barwon and Conneware
	Biddlecombe Avenue – in front of Clyde	Clyde
	Biddlecombe Avenue – in front of FB	Francis Brown
12.00pm	Biddlecombe Avenue – in front of the Middle School office	Manifold
	Tower Road – in front of Cuthbertson House	Cuthbertson
	Tower Road – in front of Perry House	Perry

We again ask parents and guardians to remain in your vehicle at the point of collection please. This protocol is part of our COVID Safe Plan.

Deliveries – Corio

Given the required COVID Safe processing of deliveries, there is oftentimes a significant delay between delivery of packages to our Corio campus and receipt of these packages by students. Please be aware of this and the associated food hygiene protocols when providing care packages for boarders, particularly with the provision of perishable and frozen items.

Today's NSW Government Announcement

In response to the News South Wales Government's announcement at 2.00pm today, that all NSW residents returning from Victoria will be required to enter a compulsory 14-day hotel quarantine (at their own expense) from Friday 7 August, I am currently in direct contact with the NSW Minister for Health's office seeking a "class" exemption for the School. I am hopeful that further news will be received overnight.

Given the uncertainty of the outcome of this exemption request, we have also arranged buses for those NSW students who decide not to remain on campus to depart Corio tomorrow, Thursday 6 August. Corio's Head of Campus, Steven Church, has contacted all NSW families directly regarding these travel arrangements.

Timbertop's Head of Campus, Tom Hall, is also on standby to organise a bus tomorrow, if required.

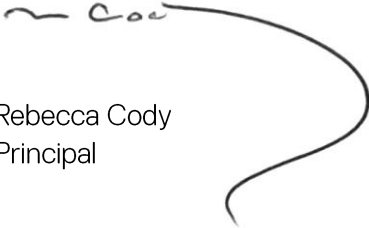
For a full list of interstate travel restrictions and exemption requirements please [click here](#).

Timbertop

Our interaction with Government authorities as to the implications of the new health directives at this site is ongoing. In the meantime, we are continuing to operate within Stage 3 restrictions and COVID Safe requirements.

Throughout the pandemic, the School has exceeded all health and risk requirements as published by the State and Federal Governments and has maintained stringent controls in terms of COVID-19 response and planning. Our risk mitigation measures have served us well until now and we are so pleased to be able to continue to care for our boarders on-site.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Cody". The signature is stylized and includes a large, sweeping flourish that extends to the right and then curves back down.

Rebecca Cody
Principal