



Friday 23 October 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #63 as at 4.00pm on Friday 23 October

We continue to closely monitor the daily updates on the outbreak of COVID-19 in Victoria and are relieved that Melbourne's 14-day rolling average for new cases is now 5.5, down from 6.1 yesterday, and that regional Victoria's rolling average has fallen from 0.4 yesterday to 0.3.

Victorian Premier, Daniel Andrews, has indicated that there will be a further easing of restrictions announced on Sunday and we will adapt our approach and risk mitigation measures accordingly. We also note that the Department of Education and Training (DET) has published an updated Term 4 Operations Guide which includes updated advice in relation to school photography, allied health and swimming pools. We are pleased that school photographs are now permitted to take place outdoors for schools in metropolitan Melbourne, and both indoors and outdoors for schools in regional Victoria. Swimming pools and aquatic facilities on school grounds can now be used by students in both metropolitan and regional Victoria with appropriate safety measures in place.

Thank you

We are grateful for the support of our GGS community as we continue to employ a range of risk mitigation strategies for the continuation of on-campus learning and living in Term 4. These measures are campus-specific and include an emphasis on spatial distancing, excellent hygiene practices, daily temperature checks, wearing of face coverings/masks and the completion of our [Daily COVID-19 Health Questionnaire](#), as appropriate. For your convenience, GGS light blue cloth masks are also available to purchase from our [Uniform Shop](#).

Corio Campus

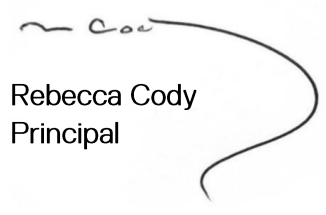
We continue to adapt our measures in the COVID-usual GGS two-week planning cycle. Weekend exeat/leave restrictions at Corio have been reviewed and Head of Campus, Steven Church, will communicate separately with families about the specifics of our appropriate adjustments which will apply from Saturday, 31 October. Critical to any arrangements for weekend leave will be the continued application of the [Restricted Activity Directions \(Non-Melbourne\) \(No 8\) \(the Directions\)](#). Any boarding students who travel to metropolitan Melbourne for weekend leave must comply with the Directions and complete the Metropolitan Melbourne Statement prior to return to campus. This requires students who travel to metropolitan Melbourne to undergo a COVID-19 test and be in receipt of a negative result prior to their return. This is not required for leave to regional Victorian destinations and accordingly, weekend leave will be allowed to regional Victoria.

Leavers' Celebration Ceremony

We were incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to host our Year 12 House Valedictory Dinners in the SPACE across five nights, from last Thursday, 15 October to Monday, 19 October. Our 2020 Leavers received a gift from the School and were able to share a special meal together in their House groups, with their families joining us remotely via Zoom. It was moving to hear the gratitude of our Year 12 students who spoke so appositely of their time at GGS and gave glowing tributes to our staff, especially our Heads of House.

We will have another opportunity to recognise and farewell our Class of 2020 at our Leavers' Celebration Ceremony, which will be held at 2.30pm this Sunday, 25 October. The Ceremony will be live streamed and I warmly invite all members of our community to join us remotely by visiting our dedicated Leavers' Ceremony microsite: www.ggs.vic.edu.au/leavers2020

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal