



Thursday 11 February 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

## **COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #6 as at 10.45am on Thursday 11 February**

### **Notification of contact with confirmed case of COVID-19 | No Action Required**

This is a courtesy communication regarding notification of student contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. There is no action required.

At 10.00pm last night, Wednesday 10 February 2021, we received notification that a Middle School boarding student had been identified by the Department of Health (DoH) as a primary contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19. The student is a returning traveller who had completed the mandatory 14 days in hotel quarantine.

Prior to the DoH notification, in response to media reporting of the outbreak at the Holiday Inn and Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton's direction that any person who had spent 15 minutes or more at the hotel between January 27 and February 9 was required to quarantine, we took immediate steps to isolate the student. As a precautionary measure, the student was also tested for COVID-19. That test was expedited and at 9.05am this morning we received confirmation from the DoH that the virus had not been detected. As advised by the DOH, the student will now complete an additional period of quarantine, off campus with family, before returning to the School.

### **Secondary contacts**

Following contact from the DoH last night and through the School's contact tracing, eight students were identified as secondary contacts. Consequently, they were also required to quarantine in accordance with our established practices until the primary contact had received a negative test result. The DoH has confirmed that the School may now stand down the measures that had been put in place for these students and no further action is required.

### **Notifiable Disease Reporting**

The School works closely with the DoH to identify and manage notifiable disease reporting. Once the School has actioned reporting to the DoH or acted upon a report received from the DoH, we provide notification to our community. Appropriately, reporting to parents and guardians is required to be made in a manner which safeguards the privacy of those students who are the subject of such reports. Overnight and this morning, we have communicated directly with those families impacted.

### **Risk Mitigation**

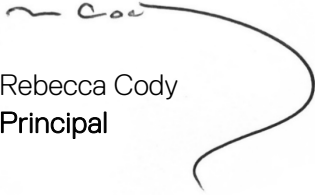
We will continue to take a highly precautionary approach and prioritise the health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff as we evolve our wide-reaching risk mitigation steps in response to COVID-19. We anticipate that situations like this will continue to arise as we navigate the evolving nature of the pandemic. We have full confidence in our rigorous COVID-19 processes and practices, and I am deeply grateful for the calm, professional and measured response of our Corio teams. I am appreciative too of the supportive and understanding response of our families.

We will continue to apply proactive risk mitigation measures. These measures will be campus-specific and will include an emphasis on spatial distancing, excellent hygiene practices, the completion of our

Daily COVID-19 Health Questionnaire and the wearing of face coverings/masks as appropriate (e.g. in classrooms at Corio and Timbertop, on buses and other public/shared transport and in circumstances where spatial distancing requirements cannot be met).

Thank you for continuing to direct all COVID-19 related queries to [C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au](mailto:C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au)

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody  
**Principal**

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**Principal's Study**

50 Biddlecombe Avenue, Corio, Victoria, Australia 3214  
T +61 3 5273 9247 E [Principal@ggs.vic.edu.au](mailto:Principal@ggs.vic.edu.au)

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