

Friday 12 February 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) - Update #9 as at 9.00pm on Friday 12 February

Thank you

Whilst today's announcements may have felt disappointing, we respect the underlying expert health advice provided and the Victorian Government's response to initiate a <u>circuit-breaker lockdown</u> from 11.59pm tonight until 11.59pm on Wednesday 17 February. Described as a hyper-infectious variant of COVID-19, we are hopeful that this swift and short strategy will prevent the need for longer lockdown periods. We trust in the GGS community's capacity to honour our civic duties at this time. As ever, your understanding regarding the complexities of our unique cross-campus context is valued.

Further to <u>Update #8</u>, published at 3.00pm today, we now have additional clarity on some aspects of our programme for the days ahead.

Learning and Wellbeing

Our expert teachers are preparing easy access learning provisions for Monday through to Wednesday. Each Head of Campus will provide any necessary, age-appropriate details to families before Monday.

For Years 1-12, with two weeks of face-to-face learning complete, there is already ample opportunity for consolidation of key concepts. Reading widely and course specific revision are ever-present opportunities, especially for Years 5 to 12.

With regard to wellbeing, it is helpful to remind our young people to focus on what it is we can control and to continue with regular physical activity and positive nutrition. We can model these behaviours for our children, including reminders that we are familiar with lockdown protocols; we can and will adapt again.

Early Learning @ GGS

Staff, parents, carers and children are permitted to leave their homes and travel beyond 5 km to attend our ELC services at Bostock House and Toorak Campus. No permit is required.

On-site Supervision

To assist parents who are "considered <u>essential workers</u>, cannot work from home and where no other supervision arrangements can be made" and "vulnerable children", we will be providing on-site supervision at Bostock House, Corio and Toorak Campus from Monday 15 February, from 8.15am until 4.00pm.

To register for On-site Supervision, please complete the <u>Registration Form</u> no later than 12.00 noon on Sunday 14 February.

On-site Living

For our residential communities, we await further information regarding Government requirements. For the time being, unless directed otherwise, the School will regard each Campus as a household and continue to meet the requisite circuit breaker restrictions. Please be assured that our boarders are safe, well and strong in spirit.

It has been an awesome start to 2021 for GGS; today's announcements don't change that – this is merely another opportunity to highlight our capacity to adapt, one step at a time.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Cody Principal