



Tuesday 27 July 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #33 as at 5.00pm on Tuesday 27 July

Further to the Hive notifications from Heads of Campus: on Wednesday 28 July all our campuses will revert immediately to usual COVIDSafe operations (i.e. prior to the circuit-breaker lockdown arrangements).

Thank you

I warmly welcome Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews' announcement regarding the [easing of COVID-19 restrictions](#) across the State from 11.59pm tonight, Tuesday 27 July; particularly the re-opening of schools. I am immensely grateful for the efforts of our community and acknowledge the challenges presented by intermittent lockdowns. The spread of the highly contagious Delta COVID-19 variant is a timely reminder of our need to remain vigilant in our processes and protocols to keep one another safe.

As noted above, all our campuses will revert immediately to usual COVIDSafe operations from tomorrow, Wednesday 28 July. Buses and classes will resume as timetabled. APS/AGSV Sport will recommence on Saturday 31 July with no spectators in attendance.

Heads of Campus will communicate campus-specific details regarding Return to Campus Arrangements, including bus and class timetables where appropriate. Please also be assured that for those students still completing quarantine or isolation requirements, we will continue to support remote learning provisions until Friday 6 August; prior to this date, we will reassess these provisions and what will be beneficial going forward.

Risk Mitigation

We will maintain our highly precautionary approach and prioritise the health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff as we embed our wide-reaching risk mitigation steps in response to COVID-19. These measures are campus-specific and include an emphasis on spatial distancing, excellent hygiene practices, the completion of our [Daily COVID-19 Health Questionnaire](#) and the mandatory wearing of face masks as required by the Department of Health (DoH).

Our risk mitigation steps will restrict non-essential access to campus for visitors, including parents. Essential on-site visitors (for learning and wellbeing purposes) will be required to QR Code check-in, wear a face mask, and have their temperature tested. Please note, for visits deemed to be essential, campus-specific QR Codes are available for use; this record keeping is an important tool for contact tracing and helping us to stay safe.

Learning and Wellbeing

We continue to learn how to live with COVID-19 and to practise predictable adaptability. We are becoming very experienced with all associated aspects of circuit-breaker lockdowns and as such, the School's capacity to transition effectively continues to strengthen. This is a result of the ongoing support and cooperation of all members of our community. We continue to develop and expand our online learning platform and portal, the Hive, which enabled a continuity of learning and connectivity for our students across the past two weeks. I am enthusiastic about how the Hive will support our students and the delivery of learning through heightened digital integration and differentiation into the future.

Year 12 Students

The Victorian Government has confirmed that the [Consideration of Educational Disadvantage \(CED\)](#) process for Year 12 leavers will continue in 2021 to account for the disruption to student learning caused by COVID-19 lockdowns. The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) will again use the CED process to finalise VCE results for every student completing one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3-4 sequence in 2021. Consistent with the approach in 2020, the process considers a range of data alongside examination results to calculate final VCE results.

The School will also continue to advocate for our International Baccalaureate (IB) students to recognise the disruption that lockdowns can represent for their learning experience.

A reminder too that the General Achievement Test (GAT) was recently rescheduled to Thursday 12 August.

Events Calendar

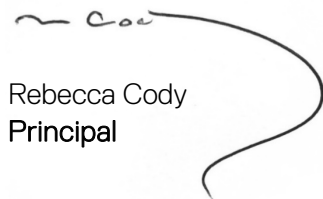
We continue to work to reschedule postponed events, including our Discovery Day at Corio which was scheduled for Friday 6 August. Further details will be provided as soon as practicable.

Next steps

Our [COVID-19 page](#) of the School website will be refreshed as required; we encourage you to check this site and thank you for continuing to direct all COVID-19 related queries to C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au.

At Bostock, Corio and Toorak, we're energised by the news that we can now welcome all students back to campus; Timbertop is equally delighted to adapt again to the pre-lockdown protocols. Despite all our experiences in 2020, these still feel like very unusual times and the pressure of the change cycle can seem relentless. Perhaps it is times like these when we learn to be most grateful for the constancy and routines of 'school' and ultimately for the gift of belonging to a community of connection and care. Thank you for remaining connected as families and for looking out for one another.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

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