



Thursday 5 August 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #35 as at 5.10pm on Thursday 5 August

We acknowledge Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews' announcement this afternoon of a [snap seven-day lockdown](#) across the State from 8.00pm tonight, Thursday 5 August. Whilst this disruption is disappointing, I have confidence in our community's capacity to once again adapt, as required. We are very well-equipped to care for the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, both day and boarding, and to continue their learning with minimal interruption.

What we can confirm:

- All schools are closed for face-to-face teaching; all day students will go home this afternoon as previously scheduled and stay home until further notice;
- Corio and Timbertop campuses will remain open as an "authorised provider" (boarding school context), allowing boarding students to remain on site for the provision of essential care services. With mid-term exeat only 8 days away, we strongly encourage boarding students at Corio to remain on campus unless there are significant health and wellbeing considerations. We are now well established with this model to care for our boarders, and this will allow them to continue their learning with minimal disruption and reduce travel-associated risks;
- Early Learning Centres at Bostock House and Toorak Campus will remain open;
- Bostock House, Corio and Toorak Campus will be open for on-site supervision of vulnerable children and the children of essential/authorised/permitted workers (please complete the [Registration Form](#) as per below);
- Age-appropriate Remote Learning will commence for all students from Period 1, tomorrow, Friday 6 August. Parents will find information on the [Hive](#) regarding the asynchronous and synchronous learning programme for our students;
- Face coverings must be worn indoors and outdoors except if at home (which includes boarding houses and units);
- Indoor physical recreation and sport facilities such as the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing will be closed;
- Outdoor physical recreation and sport facilities and playgrounds will remain open, and a COVIDSafe fitness programme will be facilitated at Corio by our expert Handbury staff; and
- APS/AGSV sport is cancelled for Saturday 7 August.

Public exposure sites

The Department of Health (DoH) is actively identifying and updating its list of [public exposure sites](#). We strongly encourage our community to monitor risk locations. It is vital that our community follows the DoH guidelines for testing and isolation: if you have visited a public exposure site during the times listed and/or if you are experiencing any of the COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, please test and isolate until further direction is provided. It is also vital that if you or a close contact have visited a public exposure site and visited one of our campuses that you notify the School via C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au.

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

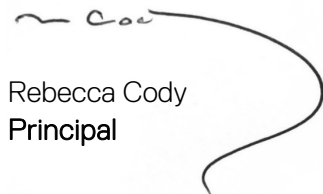
To assist parents who are considered authorised workers and “vulnerable children”, we will be providing on-site supervision at Bostock House, Corio and Toorak Campus from tomorrow, Friday 6 August from 8.15am until 4.00pm. To register for On-site Supervision, please complete the [Registration Form](#) no later than 10.00pm tonight, Thursday 5 August.

Next steps

As ever, the School will communicate swiftly and accurately with our community as the situation evolves and more information is provided by the Victorian Government. The [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. Heads of Campus will provide further details, as required, through the Hive.

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. Of course, the constant cycle of adaptation is draining yet our community’s capacity to respond with courage and compassion is energising. Thank you for the part you play in sustaining one another through these ever-evolving times.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

50 Biddlecombe Avenue, Corio, Victoria, Australia 3214
T +61 3 5273 9247 E Principal@ggs.vic.edu.au

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CRICOS 00143G ABN 92 004 971 500 www.ggs.vic.edu.au