

Sunday 21 November 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School (GGS),

# COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) - Update #57 as at 4.30pm on Sunday 21 November

We welcome the further easing of COVIDSafe restrictions as Victoria reaches Phase D of the National Plan and achieves the 90 per cent double dose milestone in the coming days. Whilst we are still awaiting the updated School Operations Guide from the Department of Education (DoE), we actively review our COVIDSafe protocols in consultation with our Senior Medical Officer, Professor Fergus Cameron. We continue to take a highly precautionary approach, exceeding Department of Health (DoH) guidelines where appropriate for our context, and prioritising the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and their families.

#### Masks

Masks must be worn indoors in primary school settings by all students, staff, and visitors. At Corio, this will apply anytime anyone is indoors with Years 5 and 6 students. For example, when Middle School Chapel involves all year levels (Years 5 to 8), all students and all staff will be required to wear masks. The same will apply indoors in Highton and Otway House when Years 5 and 6 students are present.

At our Bostock House and Toorak campuses, masks will continue to be worn at all times indoors by all primary-aged students and the adults who care for them.

## Daily Health Questionnaire and Ongoing Check-in Requirements

From tomorrow, Monday 22 November 2021, there will be no further requirement for families, students, and staff to complete the Daily Health Questionnaire (DHQ). The DHQ has been a vital part of the School's response to COVID-19 to date; we acknowledge with deep thanks the very high level of compliance demonstrated by our community.

The DHQ will now be replaced by the QR Code for each campus, with check in using the Service Victoria app. This will apply for staff and visitors (12 years old and over). Students will no longer be required to sign in; required contract tracing will rely upon attendance records ordinarily maintained by the School.

Spectators of outdoor sport will not be required to check-in. If spectators enter an indoor space, they will be required to be fully vaccinated and to check-in through the QR code/Service Victoria app.

#### Managing COVID-19 cases in Early Learning Centres

The DoE and the DoH have revised how <u>COVID-19 cases will be managed in Early Learning Centre (ELC) settings</u>. If there is a positive case at one of our ELCs, we will notify contacts directly and advise them that they are required to obtain a COVID-19 test and quarantine until they receive a negative result.

## Next steps

As ever, we will continue to communicate with our community as the situation evolves. Thank you for continuing to direct all COVID-19 related queries to <a href="mailto:C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au">C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au</a>.

Yours sincerely,

