



Friday 26 November 2021

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

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #58 as at 10.00am on Friday 26 November

We welcome the Prime Minister Scott Morrison's [announcement](#) regarding the additional changes to international border arrangements, which will come into effect on 1 December 2021 for eligible visa holders, and we very much look forward to welcoming our overseas students back to GGS in the near future.

Offshore Students

From 1 December 2021, fully vaccinated students (those holding a subclass 500 student visa), are able to return to Australia without needing to apply for a travel exemption. We are so delighted to receive this news. Further communication will be provided shortly to all offshore students wishing to return in 2022 to ensure families have all the information they need to prepare for their child's return.

Onshore Overseas Students

Students who have not been home since March 2020 may also wish to consider returning to their home country for the summer holidays. While there are some risks associated with such travel (for example, any quarantine requirements in home countries and risks of changes in travel restrictions), we recognise how important it is for students to be given the opportunity to reunite with families over the summer break. Further information will be provided to current students wishing to consider flying home at the conclusion of Term 4.

I wish to also take this opportunity to celebrate these students, especially their courage and resilience. The past 20 months have been difficult for many yet extraordinarily challenging for those separated from their immediate family.

Australian Citizens and Permanent Residents who wish to Travel Overseas

Please note, in accordance with the changes to international arrivals for fully vaccinated travellers, any fully vaccinated student over the age of 12 years and 2 months (including Australian citizens or Permanent Residents) wishing to travel overseas during the holiday period is not permitted to visit high risk settings, including schools, for a period of seven days post arrival back into Australia, and must provide a negative PCR test result (undertaken between days five and seven) to the C19 email address (C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au) prior to returning to campus at the commencement of 2022.

There are additional requirements for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students, depending on the student's age. Please visit <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/information-overseas-travellers> for the most up to date information.

Next steps

Thank you for continuing to direct all COVID-19 related queries to C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au.

Families seeking specific information about overseas students returning to GGS should be directed to escarlett@ggs.vic.edu.au.

Once again, we are so excited by the prospect of welcoming our overseas students back to their GGS home.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Cody

Principal

