



Thursday 9 December 2021

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Update #61 as at 9.30pm on Thursday 9 December

Status Update – the School has been notified of a positive case of COVID-19 at our Timbertop campus; the site is now under the direction of the Department of Health (DoH); all students and essential staff have been tested and will remain in place until receiving confirmation of a negative test result.

The School has also been notified that a Senior School student at our Corio Campus has been identified as a household contact of a positive case of COVID-19 and, as a precautionary measure, all students and staff considered ‘high risk’ have been instructed to test and remain in isolation until receiving confirmation of a negative test result.

Timbertop

This afternoon, Thursday 9 December 2021, the School received notification that following PCR (polymerase chain reaction) testing, a student at our Timbertop campus received a positive diagnosis of COVID-19.

- The student was asymptomatic when tested (was required to provide proof of a negative test result for interstate travel);
- The School received confirmation from the DoH this evening that all Timbertop students and essential staff must be tested and continue to isolate until they receive a negative result;
- The campus is now under the direction of the DoH;
- Students may only be collected from campus once their individual test result has been received (anticipated to be by tomorrow afternoon); and
- The School will continue to liaise with the DoH tomorrow morning about potential isolation periods and travel restrictions.

Our Head of Timbertop, Tom Hall, has been in communication with our Timbertop families and will continue to update them as the situation evolves.

I know our community is actively supporting the health and wellbeing of the student who has received a positive test result; the student is presently isolating in the Health Centre. We are grateful that the student is well and asymptomatic.

Corio

Today, Thursday 9 December 2021, the School received notification that a Senior School student has been identified as household contact of a positive case of COVID-19.

- That student is now required to test and quarantine at home (for 7 days if fully vaccinated and for 14 days if not fully vaccinated from the date of the contact’s positive test result);
- Potential exposure to the household contact was limited to one Senior School boarding house; and
- Out of an abundance of caution, all students and staff identified as having potential exposure to the household contact have been instructed to test and remain in isolation until receiving confirmation of a negative test result.

Next steps

As we have done throughout the pandemic, we continue to take a highly precautionary approach that prioritises the safety, health and wellbeing of our students, staff and their families, appropriately exceeding DoH guidelines.

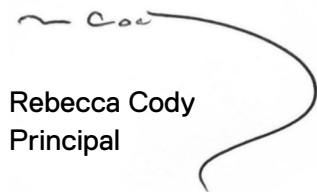
The positive diagnosis at Timbertop and household contact at Corio have required a swift response and I wish to acknowledge again the extraordinary efforts of our staff, who remained calm and professional through a period of heightened anxiety for some. Indeed, everyone involved in supporting and caring for our students and staff is to be commended.

I acknowledge that this is a period of uncertainty and concern for the families of students impacted by potential exposure to COVID-19. Please be assured that they are well, being cared for by our expert staff and in positive spirits.

Unfortunately, this is not the end to Term 4 that we had anticipated. We appreciate your understanding, patience, and ongoing support.

As ever, thank you for continuing to direct all other COVID-19 related queries to C19questions@ggs.vic.edu.au.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Cody
Principal

Principal's Study

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