



GEE LONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®
EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

JUNIOR SCHOOL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Welcome to the Junior School at Corio Campus

Geelong Grammar School's new Junior School offers a rich, inquiry-driven education in an expansive nature-based setting, featuring purpose-built learning spaces and exceptional staff. Learning is structured within the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) framework, which provides a transdisciplinary, concept-driven approach to delivering the Australian Curriculum. Through inquiry, students develop curiosity, independence and critical thinking, while making meaningful connections across subjects and applying their learning in relevant, real-life situations. Beyond core academics, students will engage in a diverse range of learning experiences, including music, drama, language, visual arts, sports, leadership and community-based activities, supporting holistic, whole-child development. Being located on Corio Campus provides students and families with access to world-class facilities, strengthening learning opportunities and supporting a seamless transition into Middle School and Senior School.



Educational Approach & Experience

How will the nature-based environment support academic excellence and student learning?

The Junior School's nature-based environment, combined with the PYP, will provide a strong foundation for rigorous, inquiry-driven learning and deep, authentic understanding. Students will actively construct knowledge by engaging with the natural world rather than solely receiving information through exploring subjects in isolation.

Research has shown that nature-based learning enhances student engagement, strengthens problem-solving skills and improves cognitive development. A peer-reviewed study found that students who learn in outdoor environments demonstrate better focus, higher academic performance and increased critical thinking skills (Kuo et al., 2019). Additionally, exposure to nature has been linked to greater cognitive flexibility, emotional resilience and social development (Chawla, 2015). These findings align with the IB PYP framework, which emphasises active, inquiry-based learning in real-world contexts (IBO, 2024).

NAPLAN results have consistently placed Bostock House among the top-performing schools in Geelong and we will continue to prioritise strong foundational skills in literacy and numeracy. The research-informed practices that underpin these outcomes – including explicit instruction, inquiry-based learning and differentiated teaching—will be central to the Junior School experience.

This approach ensures that students build a strong academic foundation while developing the ability to think critically and apply their learning in meaningful, personalised ways.

When will the Junior School at Corio Campus open?

Construction is progressing well, with completion anticipated in late 2025 – a milestone that marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for our Bostock House community. To ensure our youngest learners settle smoothly into their new environment, the Corio Junior Transition team is developing a staged and supportive transition programme – Pathways to Corio – to be sequenced across Term 1, 2026. Following this transition period, the Noble Street site will be closed at the end of Term 1 and the full relocation will be completed for the beginning of Term 2.

What are the year levels at Junior School when it opens?

The Junior School building is designed to accommodate one class per year level from Prep to Year 4. Students in Year 5 will transition into Middle School, also located at Corio Campus.

What will class sizes be?

In Prep and Year 1, there will be a maximum of 22 students per class, while in Years 2 to 4, class sizes will have a maximum of 24 students.

How many students will it cater for?

The Junior School will initially accommodate 116 students. Based on demand, additional learning spaces may be introduced to expand to two streams per year level.

What are the start and finish times?

At this stage, the Junior School schedule is planned to follow the same structure as Bostock House:

- Start time: 9.00am
- Finish time: 3.30pm

Will there be an Early Learning Centre (ELC)?

Yes, there will be an ELC introduced at the Corio Campus offering an early learning programme for children aged three to five years. The ELC will be located on the western side of the Corio Campus, close to School Road entrance and nestled amongst other established residences. Please see the separate ELC FAQ document for more details.

Campus, Facilities & Location

Where will the Junior School be located?

The Junior School will be positioned on the northern aspect of Corio Campus, adjacent to Cameron Close. This location was carefully chosen for its seamless connection to the natural landscape, exposing students to diverse living systems and providing rich opportunities for hands-on exploration and discovery.

Where is the school drop-off point?

A new ring road will provide direct access to the Junior School from the Corio Campus entrance, with ample parking for drop-off and pick-up.

Will before and after-school care be provided?

Yes, to support our families, we will be offering a before and after-school care programme as is currently available at Bostock House. This will be available on both a regular and occasional basis, with specific details including cost and location to be shared with families once finalised.

Will there be bus transportation available?

Yes, Junior School students can use the existing GGS bus network, please see the transportation section for further information.

Will the Corio Campus facilities be used by the Junior School students?

Yes. For example, sharing the same campus as the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing (HCW), including swimming pool and indoor courts, all-weather tennis/hockey courts and sporting ovals, will provide our Junior School students with ample opportunity for on-campus sports and physical activities during school time that would otherwise be conducted off-site. We also envisage on-site incursions, utilising facilities such as the School for Performing Arts and Creative Education (the SPACE) and Chapel of All Saints.

Will the Junior School have its own fields and playgrounds?

Yes. The Junior School site design includes a junior-sized playing field, an adventure playground and provisions for future sports courts as the School expands.

Will the Junior School students have opportunities for sports lessons - tennis, swimming and horse riding?

Swimming lessons are currently offered at the HCW by an external provider and are already available to families. Private tennis lessons are also available to GGS students through the xSoar Tennis programme.

The Equestrian programme is currently available to Middle and Senior School students at Corio Campus. Participation requires students to agist their own horse on campus and take full responsibility for its grooming, feeding and riding throughout the week. At this stage, horse agistment and participation in the Equestrian programme is not being considered for Junior School students.

Will there be food catering and/or lunch provided?

We do not intend to provide daily food catering, as is currently the case for Middle and Senior School students. However, the Nutrition Kitchen will be used to support special events that foster community connection and will provide catering for school activities as needed. Weekly lunch orders may be explored in the future.

Transition from Bostock House

Will the current Bostock House teaching staff be moving to the Junior School?

We greatly value our dedicated Bostock House staff and their contribution to our school community. They have been active in planning the transition and we anticipate that our teaching, administration and support staff will move to the new Junior School.

Will the House system remain the same?

Initially, we anticipate retaining the current House structure from Bostock House, which includes:

- Austin (blue)
- Morres (purple)
- School (yellow)
- Volum (red)

While changes may occur over time, we are committed to preserving the legacy of these Houses and the individuals they represent in a meaningful way wherever appropriate.

Will the name “Bostock House” continue?

The main building of the new Junior School will be named the Bostock Centre, honouring Thomas Edward Bostock (School Council 1909-1922) and preserving and renewing the history and legacy of Bostock House in a meaningful way at our new location.

Will Bostock House continue as a school?

Once all students have relocated to the new Junior School, the Bostock House campus at 139 Noble Street, Newtown, will be listed for sale.

Parent & Community Engagement

Will there be an area for parents to gather?

Yes. The Junior School building will include a reception and Nutrition Kitchen, providing a welcoming space for parents to connect with staff and each other.

What opportunities will there be for parents to be involved?

At Bostock House, the Friends of Bostock (FoB) Committee has played an integral role in bringing families together, supporting the campus through fundraisers, social events and student experiences.

As we transition to the new Junior School, we look forward to exploring how this parent-led group will continue and evolve. We will provide further details as plans are confirmed, ensuring that families have meaningful opportunities to stay involved and connected within the school community.

Sustainability & Operational

What operational risks have been assessed?

A comprehensive risk assessment has been conducted to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and community. Key considerations include site security, traffic management, watercourse safety and environmental factors. Measures such as perimeter fencing, well-maintained outdoor spaces, screened buildings and strategic planting selections have been incorporated into the design to support a safe and comfortable environment.

What are the key sustainability features?

The all-electric building design incorporates optimal passive performance, creating a highly sustainable baseline and therefore minimising energy inputs. A significant 196kW solar array will be incorporated, that can scale up to 380kW as the precinct expands. Rainwater harvesting will be utilised for toilet flushing, irrigation and wash down, minimising reliance on mains water for potable supply. A native landscape palette will significantly contribute to further ecological restoration of the site.

Will the Junior School be net zero?

The building has been designed to generate more electricity than it consumes thanks to its 196kW solar system and energy efficient and all-electric design. After 12 months of operation an appropriate energy storage option will be sized and installed to make the building truly net zero.

Have the traditional owners been consulted?

Yes. Our Corio Campus is located on Wadawurrung land. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin nation as the traditional owners of this land, where we learn, teach and work. We acknowledge that Wadawurrung Ancestors nurtured and cared for this land for tens of thousands of years. We share the Wadawurrung peoples' ambition to see their unique cultural heritage protected and respected for the betterment of those living on and engaging with their land, waterways and coastal areas. To support this commitment, we have developed a Cultural Heritage Management Plan to protect areas of cultural sensitivity.

Transportation

What transport options are available for Junior School students?

Families have two main options for travel to and from the Junior School at Corio Campus:

Car: Families may choose to drive their child to school, with convenient drop-off and pick-up access near the Junior School.

To ensure student safety, parents who drive are asked to walk their child across the designated crossing and accompany them safely from the carpark to the Junior School grounds.

A map showing the location of the carpark and its proximity to the Junior School can be found at the back of this document.

Bus: Junior School students can use the existing GGS bus network, which connects families across Geelong, the Bellarine, the Surf Coast and Melbourne's western suburbs. Bus routes and maps are available on Hive and can be viewed here: <https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au/homepage/5569>

To support the Junior School timetable, two additional services will be trialled during Term 2 on Monday to Wednesday afternoons, with a 3.45pm departure time from the Junior School carpark. These services will cover the West Melbourne and Newtown routes only, with specific drop-off points to be confirmed based on demand.

Can Early Learning Centre (ELC) children use the bus service?

No. Unfortunately, due to requirements for ELC students to be signed in and out by an adult, the bus service is not available for ELC children.

What areas are covered by the GGS bus network?

The GGS bus network operates daily routes across multiple locations, including Altona, Barwon Heads, Ceres, Drysdale, Gnarwarre, Highton, Jan Juc, Newtown, North Geelong, Ocean Grove, Point Cook, Point Lonsdale, Torquay and Williamstown.

What time will buses arrive and depart?

Morning: Buses arrive at the Corio Campus Main Carpark between 8.00am and 8.15am. Junior School students will remain on the bus and continue directly to the Junior School carpark, arriving shortly after. A dedicated bus supervisor will be at the carpark when students arrive to meet them and provide guidance as they make their way into the Junior School.

Afternoon (Monday–Wednesday): Two additional bus services will be trialled during Term 2, departing from the Junior School carpark at 3.45pm. These additional services will operate exclusively on the West Melbourne and Newtown routes for Junior School students, with drop-off points confirmed based on family home locations. The trial for these two services will run across Term 2, and if demand is sufficient, the services will continue. Please note, no other services will run at 3.45pm. The existing 5.15pm service from Corio Campus (used by Middle School students) is available to Junior School students. Families wishing to use this later service can access After-School Care for their child between the end of the school day and the bus departure.

Afternoon (Thursday–Friday): Buses will collect Junior School students from the Junior School carpark at 3.45pm before continuing to collect Middle School students from the Main Carpark. Departure from the Main Carpark will be at 4.00pm.

Will Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) be available for families who need flexibility around bus times?

Yes. Before and after-school care will be available in the new ELC building at Corio Campus for both ELC and Junior School families.

Will supervision on the bus be provided or the Junior School students?

At this stage, supervision will not be provided on buses for Junior School students. Parents are responsible for ensuring their child is safely collected and placed on the bus at their departure point, and for meeting them at their designated drop-off location.

Early Learning Centre (ELC) children are not permitted to use the bus service.

Clear terms of use for bus travel will be provided to families and must be signed by parents. These outline expectations such as:

- Children remaining seated and wearing seat belts while the bus is moving
- Appropriate behaviour to ensure the safety of all passengers
- Parents supporting their child to follow bus rules and procedures (including use of BusMinder)

Transportation (continued)

Can families track their child's bus journey?

Most GGS buses are fitted with the BusMinder system, which allows students to 'tap on' and 'tap off'. This provides parents with real-time updates on their child's journey through the BusMinder app.

Please note: some services are not currently fitted with the BusMinder system, and families using these services will not have access to real-time tracking. To see which services are not currently fitted with the BusMinder system, please visit the Hive Bus Information page: <https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au/homepage/5569>

How much does the bus service cost?

Students travelling on buses operated by the School are charged a fee each term. Charges are based on how often your child uses the GGS bus service:

Number of Trips	Charge %
1 – 5 trips per week	50% charge
6 – 10 trips per week	100% charge
Causal Use Rate	\$15 per trip, maximum 10 trips per term

The cost of using the bus service ranges from \$650 to \$1,230 per term (inclusive of GST). Charges are determined by postcode and the associated cost of operating each route.

The 2026 bus service charges will be finalised towards the end of 2025 and published on the Hive Bus Information page: <https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au/homepage/5569>

Some students may be eligible for a Conveyance Allowance from the State Government. This allowance helps offset the cost of travel to and from school, whether by bus or private car. Further information relating to this allowance can be viewed here: <https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au/homepage/13638>

Where can I see bus routes and timetables?

Bus routes and maps are available on Hive and can be viewed here: <https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au/homepage/5569>

Further Assistance:

For any questions regarding the GGS bus service, please contact the Commuter Bus Coordinator:

Email: busenquiries@ggs.vic.edu.au

Phone: +61 3 5227 6214

Admissions

What do I need to do to apply for a place at the Junior School?

- **Current Bostock House students:** If your child is currently attending Bostock House, they are automatically guaranteed a place at the Junior School.
- **New applicants:** If your child is not currently attending Bostock House, you will need to complete the enrolment application form via the School website: www.ggs.vic.edu.au/apply

Upon receiving your completed application, a member of the Admissions team will contact you to schedule an interview. Please note: Submission of an application does not guarantee a place.

- **Students already registered for Geelong Grammar School:** If your child is already registered to join Geelong Grammar School and you would like to change their enrolment to the Junior School, please contact the Admissions team to discuss your options.

Is there an application deadline?

We encourage new families to submit applications as early as possible to secure a place.

Is there a waiting list?

Yes, waiting lists are already in place for some year levels in 2026. If a year level reaches capacity, applicants will be placed on a waiting list and places will be offered as they become available.

What are the tuition fees?

The Junior School will follow the existing Bostock House fee structure, subject to annual review as per Geelong Grammar School's policies.

A full schedule of fees is available at www.ggs.vic.edu.au/enrolment/geelong-grammar-fees

Further Assistance:

For all enquiries regarding enrolments, transition or general information, please contact the Admissions Team:

Email: admissions@ggs.vic.edu.au

Phone: +61 3 5273 9307

Corio Campus Junior School and ELC



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