

28 April 2020

Be of
COURAGE



Dear Parents and Carers

This is a short item of correspondence simply to keep you informed of the position of The Geelong College in relation to a number of public conversations about schools and COVID-19.

Generally, the first two weeks of Term 2 have gone well for the students across College. The challenges of Remote Learning are many and some are quite significant. Through my conversations with students and parents over the last few weeks it has become clear to me that the experience of each student and family tends to vary depending upon their particular circumstances. Remote Learning, our shared understanding of it, the tools we are using to engage it and its effectiveness have all developed significantly over the last month. Above all, I am most grateful for the positive approach by students, teachers and parents as we collectively seek to make sure there is continuity in the learning of our students.

Three weeks ago the Victorian government announced that Victorian schools will be engaged in Remote Learning for Term 2 or until the Chief Medical Officer indicates it is safe to do otherwise. Victoria is currently operating under a very unusual condition of "State of Emergency" which is in place until 11 May. This will be reviewed and may be ended or extended at that time. This morning the Victorian government has confirmed the restrictions on schools, movement and physical distancing will remain in place until there is advice from the Chief Medical Officer that things can change. Therefore, the plan devised for Remote Learning at The Geelong College remains in place and largely unchanged for the moment. It is my hope for students to be back at school this term in accordance with regulations and directions from the Victorian government. If and when these regulations change, I will communicate the implications of these changes on our ability to return to normal school operations.

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that we are constantly monitoring the situation and seeking to ensure the continuity in learning of our students. The situation remains unchanged for the moment and we are required to continue with the Remote Learning approach.

I trust this information is useful at this time of large amounts of information coming from all organisations. Thank you for your patience and constructive approach in these difficult times.

Best wishes



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Principal

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