



Dear Families

I write to you following recent advice concerning the development of a COVID-19 Cluster in South Australia and the closure of two Adelaide schools today.

Please be assured that we are remaining vigilant with our practicing of excellent hygiene and required physical distancing at Gleeson College, and we are well prepared for school closure should that eventuate.

Please refer below for details about:

- current advice from SA Health and Catholic Education South Australia
- attendance expectations for students and visitors of Gleeson College
- end of year events.

### **\Current SA Health Advice**

If you visited the any of the locations listed in the following link during the specified times, and have not been contacted by SA Health, you should self-quarantine immediately and call the SA COVID-19 Information line 1800 253 787 (open until 8pm).

#### [Current Contact Tracing Locations](#)

You can also call the Government's Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080. This line operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **Symptoms**

Symptoms of COVID-19 can include fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath, or loss of taste or smell. If you have any of these symptoms, please seek testing immediately.

### **Testing**

A new COVID-19 mobile testing clinic has opened at Parafield:

- Open to all ages, 9am – 6pm, 7 days
- Walk-in – no booking or referral needed
- Corner Lockheed Lane and Butler Avenue, Parafield Airport

Other nearby testing sites include:

- Elizabeth mobile testing clinic (walk-in)
- Para Hills West (drive-through, by appointment only)
- Lyell McEwin Hospital, Elizabeth Vale (walk-in)

For a full list of testing sites visit [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidtesting](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidtesting)

If you have any concerns about your health, contact your GP and please continue to monitor the [South Australian Government website](#) for the most up-to-date information.

### **Catholic Education South Australia affected schools**

Thomas More College will be closed today (16 November 2020) due to a confirmed case of COVID-19. Catholic Education SA is working closely with SA Health and the Department for Education. More information will be made available to parents and students later today.

### **Attendance at Gleeson College**

We expect all students who are well and not considered vulnerable to COVID-19 to attend Gleeson College. Students are required to attend school unless they:

- are feeling unwell
- have a chronic medical condition or compromised immune system and are not able to attend school on advice from their medical practitioner
- live in a household with others that are deemed vulnerable to COVID-19 and are not able to attend school on advice of their medical practitioner
- have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or have been required to self-isolate by SA Health.

If a member of your household is being tested for COVID-19 we ask that students stay home until cleared. If you have any doubt about your situation please ring the College to speak to our Safety, Risk and Compliance Officer, Mrs Natalie Barrington.

### **Physical distancing at Gleeson College**

Gleeson College is following the advice of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), who does not believe it is appropriate or practical for students and children to maintain physical distancing requirements in classrooms or corridors.

Adults continue to follow the density and physical distancing guidelines outlined by SA Health and a number of restrictions remain in place.

Parents and visitors attending the College must sign in through our main Reception office and complete our COVID-19 disclaimer.

### **End of year events**

Celebratory events are important ways of acknowledging the achievements of students over the course of the year, and to show appreciation for the contributions of our staff. These include:

- graduation ceremonies
- end of year assemblies and concerts
- presentation evenings.

Based on Government health advice, the above College events may be affected.

As we have seen, circumstances regarding the presence of COVID-19 within South Australia can change rapidly, and therefore any event planning is taking place with the view that they may be subject to sudden change or cancellation in the interests of staff and student safety. We will communicate with you regarding any changes as information comes to hand.

We hope that the situation in South Australia does not escalate and that we can continue to enjoy low level restrictions into the future. Thank you once again for your ongoing support in this difficult year.

Kind regards,

**Joe Corbo,  
Principal 2020**