



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Richardson Drive Wynn Vale SA 5127 | PO Box 1371 Golden Grove SA 5125
t | 08 8282 6000 e | office@goldengrove.sa.edu.au w | www.goldengrove.sa.edu.au
ABN 76 775 629 005

28 January 2022

School Community Update

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I pray that you and your families are keeping safe and well. I would like to take the opportunity to update you with some further details regarding the start of the school year and the management of COVID as we prepare for the start of school next week.

Return to School

Thank you for all your assistance in completing the recent survey around your family's plans and individual circumstances for the start of school. If we are yet to receive a response from your family, we have worked on the assumption that your child(ren) will either be attending school for face-to-face learning (Foundation - Year 2) or will engage with remote learning online (Years 3-6). Please contact the school if you have not already completed the online survey to let us know if this is not the case for your family.

A reminder that **Monday 31 January and Tuesday 1 February** are professional development days for all staff and are student free days.

If you are an essential worker and have no other means of supervision for your child, then your child can be supervised at school on this day by teaching staff for a range of informal activities. Students attending schools can wear sports uniform on these two days.

Foundation 'Getting to Know You' sessions will continue at the scheduled times.

Wednesday 2 February

School commences with face-to-face learning for Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2.

Year 3-6 students will be required to do remote, online learning at home. Details in relation to accessing Teams and Seesaw and the learning program will be emailed to families.

By now you should have received your iPad and downloaded the required apps ready for 2022. We understand that for some families, this may be a daunting process and are offering one-to-one assistance in setting up your iPad and apps on Tuesday 1 February 2022. If you would like to take up this opportunity, please copy the code: 99pnt and paste it into

Believe. Collaborate. Achieve.



**Connected
SCHOOLS**
A Christ-Centred Community of K-12 Lutheran Schools

<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/>. From there you can choose a suitable half hour time slot.

If you have any further questions, please contact the school.

On **Monday 14 February**, face-to-face learning recommences for all students.

School Mini Buses

Buses will be running. Please contact the school if your child requires transport with the GGLPS bus if you have not already done so via the earlier survey.

Canteen

The canteen will be closed for the first two weeks of school. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Management of COVID Cases in the School

SA Health has provided guidance on how to manage cases of COVID-19 in schools. There will be new contact tracing and close contact arrangements in education from 31 January 2022.

The new arrangements recognise the importance of providing quality education and care for our children and students while minimising the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- Under the new arrangements outlined by the State Government, schools will remain open if there is a case of COVID.
- Mask use will be a critical factor in the ability of schools to stay open. We strongly encourage students, particularly in Years 3- 6, to wear masks during class time and appreciate the support of our families in this area.
- Where there is a significant outbreak of COVID-19 at GGLPS, SA Health will work directly with the school and may put in place additional controls or restrictions to minimise the transmission of the virus.

It is very important that you:

- notify us immediately if your child tests positive to COVID-19
- keep your child/ren home if they are:
 - unwell
 - experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (even if symptoms are mild)
 - any other member of the household has COVID-19
 - they are a close contact for a person who has COVID-19 and are required to quarantine
- encourage your child in Years 3 to 6 to wear a face mask while indoors at school.

Contact Tracing

- Anyone (staff or student) who tests positive to COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days.
- If a staff member or student tests positive to COVID-19 and has been to school while infectious, the site is not required to temporarily close.

SA Health has provided the following guidance for the management of 'classroom contacts' of a COVID-19 positive case:

A 'classroom contact' is a student or staff member who has been in a classroom where a classroom member (student or teacher, teacher's aide etc.) subsequently tests positive for COVID-19.

Actions to be undertaken:

Students

- Parents of student classroom contacts will receive a notification from the school informing them that there has been a positive case of COVID-19 in the classroom
- All students and children without symptoms can continue attending school.
- No rapid antigen testing will be required
- If any symptoms develop (even mild) students and children must not attend school and must be tested for COVID-19.

Additional Recommendations for Classroom Contacts

The Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) has recommended that classroom contacts should avoid the following between days 1 to 7 of exposure:

- Attendance at OSHC where possible
- Attending extra-curricular activities for 7 days (such as camps, excursions, interschool sport, combined choir etc – noting most of these activities have been temporarily suspended until week 4).

The CPHO advises classroom contacts should do the following to minimise risk to others, when outside of the school setting between days 1 to 14 of exposure:

- Avoid high risk settings or COVID Management Plan events
- Wear a surgical mask around others (where age appropriate) and outside the home
- Avoid contact with vulnerable people outside of your workplace or family, where possible
- Avoid non-essential activities where possible (e.g., where there are lots of people, inside, in close contact)
- Avoid shared spaces and maintain physical distance.

Any student who has worked 1:1 with a COVID positive staff member (more than 15 minutes, indoors, in close proximity and where face masks are not able to be worn) will be asked to complete 7 days of rapid antigen testing ('test to stay'). The test should be taken each morning before attending school. At the moment, we believe that the school will be provided with the testing kits to pass on at no charge. Students who test positive must not attend school.

Alternatively, if you do not want your child to complete the 7-day testing protocol, they must quarantine for 7 days.

Staff

- We anticipate that teacher and LSO classroom contacts will be provided with 7 days of rapid antigen testing ('test-to-stay')
- Staff will be able to test themselves at home and should continue to attend the workplace with a negative result
- Staff should not under any circumstances attend the site if they are unwell regardless of the test result

- If a staff member has COVID symptoms, but tests negative on a rapid antigen test, they need to undertake a PCR test.

Continued Measures to Minimise Risk at Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School

A range of measures have been put in place by SA Health and GGLPS to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks. These are summarised below:

Face masks:

Face masks are required for:

- All adults when indoors (except if it is impeding the ability to communicate while teaching)
- Masks are strongly recommended for children in Years 3 to 6 when indoors
- All students using the school bus will be required to wear a mask.

Other measures:

- All students and staff must stay home if unwell, even if symptoms are mild
- GGLPS will maximise ventilation in all learning spaces by leaving doors and windows open where possible., using air conditioning and ceiling fans
- Air purifiers will be placed in spaces where this is necessary
- Outdoor learning will be encouraged where appropriate
- Physical distancing will be implemented where possible
- Staff intermingling will be minimised
- Student intermingling across class groups inside will be minimised.

Non-essential visitors on-site will be limited:

- Parents and carers, please limit your presence on the school site
- Allied health professionals and student support services will be an exception
- An exception will be made for parents of children starting School, especially Foundation, with COVID safe measures in place (face masks etc), to ensure a smooth transition into School.

The following activities will be temporarily postponed until Week 4 of Term 1:

- Camps, excursions, and incursions
- Choir
- Interschool sport trials, practice and competitions
- Large gatherings such as assemblies, events and Chapel (these will be held online).

Whilst these new arrangements will be in place until at least week 4 of Term 1, please be aware that with the rapidly changing nature of the pandemic, however, the proposed arrangements may be reviewed or changed if necessary.

If you have any questions with any of the above, please contact the school on (08) 8282 6000.

I wish our community God's blessings as we work together towards a brighter future.

Will Wallace
Principal