

8 April 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students;

You may now be aware that remote learning is to commence at Greater Shepparton Secondary College (GSSC) and schools across Victoria from the start of Term 2. The latest advice from Victorian health authorities is that all students who **can** study from home in the coming term **must** study from home.

It is important GSSC and our school community play our part in helping to limit the spread of coronavirus. Now that we have clarity around the commencement of remote learning, I wish to provide advice and guidance on the following:

- GSSC campuses will re-open 14 April with a pupil-free day. Remote learning will commence from 15 April.

On-site learning from 15 April will only be available for a small number of children whose parents can't work from home and vulnerable students without access to a suitable learning environment at home. Parents and carers need to ring 03 4804 5601 in office hours on 14 April to identify those students who must attend school for these reasons. The Department of Education and Training is now developing a booking form for students requiring on-site learning.

- On-site learning will be identical to remote learning, with the same online instruction for all year levels.
- Parents and carers have been invited to register their interest to borrow a GSSC laptop computer. The college has a large number of laptops available for loan; please register by filling out the simple terms and conditions and contact details on Compass. If you are having difficulty, please ring the Compass hotline on 4804 5600 any business day between 9am-3pm.

Please Note: Laptops are available for students with a genuine need, and not for convenience purposes. One will be provided per household.

- The Department of Education and Training is putting in place solutions for households lacking internet access. GSSC will assist where possible and will convey updates on these initiatives as they come to hand.
- Remember that our student management system, Compass, will remain our primary teaching tool for remote learning. We also encourage you to continually visit our website, www.gssc.vic.edu.au. Here you will find "how-to" guides to Compass, remote learning and important updates.

Finally, may I assure parents, carers and students that our plans to put in place effective remote learning are well advanced, thanks to the dedication of our teachers.

These are trying times however we are committed to providing high quality education to our students, who are at the centre of all that we do. All staff will be available to work and support students, including teachers, support staff and wellbeing. We have many fantastic community agencies that are willing to work closely with our school to support students during this time.

We are aided by the combined talent and resources we have in bringing together our secondary schools into GSSC. As one school, we are working together to support our staff and students. As one school, our combined health and welfare for students and their families has never been stronger - and will serve us well in the months ahead. More detail will be provided in a further letter once this is clear.

Sincerely,



Genevieve Simson
Executive Principal

