GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®
EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

CORIO CAMPUS HANDBOOK

MIDDLE SCHOOL

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01 About Geelong Grammar School

Welcome to Geelong Grammar School, a vibrant and pioneering school that provides exceptional learning opportunities built on real-world experiences and genuine human connections. Established in 1855, we advance our heritage through innovation that champions a well-rounded, modern education for young people.

Corio Campus

The space to flourish

Corio Campus offers a unique 'village' setting located on a private 230-hectare estate on the outskirts of Geelong and an hour south of Melbourne, wholly removed from local traffic or the bustle and distractions of city living. Our students enjoy a busy, stimulating, and supportive learning environment with ample open space, playing fields and gardens with a magnificent blend of beautiful historic buildings and modern architecture. Our location and scale allow students a sense of freedom and independence within the safe parameters of our school grounds. Most of our academic staff live on campus; there are almost 100 family residences nestled in and amongst the boarding houses, creating a nurturing, interconnected community with a strong sense of family and belonging.

Middle School framework

Each year, our Middle School team is responsible for the care and education of around 300 students in Years 5 to 8. We welcome students from all areas of Australia and overseas and celebrate the tremendous diversity this brings. All students enjoy the opportunity to live, learn and develop with friends from different backgrounds, cultures and life experiences.

We understand that during primary and secondary education, the relationship between independence and interdependence is complex. There is the desire for space and exploration and yet the need for structure and support. Our Middle School programme focuses on providing a stimulating environment with diverse experiences that nurture confidence in

learning, an enthusiasm for a broad range of activities, respect for others and a desire to contribute to the community.

The Houses

Our house system is intrinsic to the networks we create to enable our students to give and receive support, and to develop and sustain relationships within our community.

Middle School has two boarding houses, Kunuwarra for girls and Parrwang for boys, and two co-educational day houses, Otway and Highton. Each house is a vibrant community of young people where, over the time with us at Middle School, our staff get to know each child and family well.

02 Enrolment options for students

We have a long tradition of boarding and, over the years, have adapted to meet the changing needs of our students and families, offering a rich educational experience to all.

Boarding begins in Middle School from Year 7, where students may enrol as full boarders and weekly boarders.

Day student enrolment is from Year 5 to 8. A day student attends classes from 8.20 am to 3.40 pm and participates in afterschool co-curricular activities on Monday to Wednesday. Day students will finish their day at 5.00pm (Monday to Wednesday) or 3.40pm (Thursday to Friday).

Parents who are considering changing their child's enrolment arrangement, such as switching into boarding, are asked to contact the Admissions Office directly: admissions@ggs.vic.edu.au

03 Middle School : staff and roles

We have a team of compassionate staff who become integral to the lives of our students and work collaboratively to understand and support the needs of each individual under their care, including consideration for intellectual, physical, spiritual, social and emotional aspects of a student's development.

Vice Principal | Residential Education, Care & Community

As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, the Vice Principal brings a vital link between executive management and the living and learning community members of the Corio Campus.

Head of Middle School

The Head of Middle School is responsible for managing and facilitating programmes, policies, and actions to support a culture of quality teaching and learning in Middle School and enhance the delivery of our pastoral care programme.

Head of House

The Head of House is a pivotal figure across all aspects of a student's life in Middle School, overseeing the care and wellbeing of each student in their house, and upholding the rules, routines and expectations that are consistent with overall school policy.

Assistant Head of House

The Assistant Head of House supports the Head of House in the day-to-day running of the house and assists in overseeing each student's academic and pastoral needs.

Mentors

Mentors are vital in supporting a sense of community connectedness within each house. Mentors are academic staff whose purpose is to maintain positive and supportive relationships within their mentor groups in Years 7 and 8.
Mentor groups meet regularly each week, allowing Mentors to check in with each student and respond to their pastoral, wellbeing and learning needs as they arise. They are the first point of contact for parents in addressing academic or pastoral queries. For Year 5 and 6 students, the classroom teacher is their mentor and a key contact in day-today matters relating to your child.

House Assistant (boarding)

House Assistants care for the general health and wellbeing of boarders and oversee the day-to-day matters of the house, such as laundry, cleanliness, daily operations, student movements and general care for students.

04 The pastoral care programme

The house system underpins student care throughout Corio and ensures that every student is visible. Pastoral care encompasses boarding staff, teaching staff, supporting staff, sports coaches, school counsellors and psychologists, school nurses and the Chaplain. If a student needs to discuss any concern or issue, they will always have someone to turn to and someone watching out for them.

Who to contact?

Key to the success of our Middle School programme is the quality of communication between the school and home. There are a number of readily available points of contact for matters concerning your child, depending on the nature of the communication and the student's enrolment type.

These include the Head of Middle School, Head of House, House Mentor, House Assistant (boarding), classroom teacher (Years 5 and 6), and the Kennedy Health Centre.

The Head of House and the student's House Mentor are responsible for the immediate needs of each student and are therefore the first point of contact for any questions or concerns. For Year 5 and 6 students, the classroom teacher is a pivotal figure and primary point of contact for parents. Staff contact details are found in the Hive (parent portal).

05 School routines

Boarding house routine

From rising time until lights out, life as a GGS boarder is purposeful and active.

Whilst each day is different, a typical week will look something like this:

7.00am	Wake and shower
7.20am	Breakfast in the Darling Hall
8.15am	Tidy rooms and prepare for the day
8.30am	School activities – house assembly or MS assembly/Chapel/Mentor groups
8.55am	Classes begin
10.40am	Recess
1.00pm	Lunch available in Darling Hall - attendance compulsory
3.40pm	End of classes
4.00pm	Music, Sport or Activities programme
5.30pm	Dinner in Darling Hall - attendance compulsory
6.30pm	Supervised Prep (homework)
8.00pm	Supper
8.30pm	Bed, reading, lights out

Day student routine

A typical daily schedule for a Middle School day student:

8.20am	Arrive at School
8.30am	School activities – House assembly or MS Assembly / Chapel / Mentor groups
8.55am	Classes begin
10.40am	Recess

1.00pm	Lunch available in Darling Hall - attendance compulsory
3.40pm	End of classes
4.00pm	Music, Sports or Homework Club (Mon, Tue, Wed)
4.00pm	Bus departs (Thur, Fri)
5.15pm	Bus departs (Mon, Tue, Wed)

Regular parts of the day

Academic timetable

We operate on a 10-day cycle of six periods per day, from Monday to Friday.

Students engage in school activities before class on most mornings, including house assembly, MS assembly, or whole school assembly.

Whole school assemblies take place every second Tuesday with a reduced five-period timetable for that day.

After school

After their academic timetable finishes at 3.40pm, Middle School students engage in the following:

- Monday - Music co-curricular programme,
- Tuesday - Sport co-curricular programme,
- Wednesday - Sport co-curricular programme (Year 7 and 8),
- Wednesday - Homework Club-optional (Year 5 and 6),
- Thursday - Activities programme (boarding students),
- Friday - free

Assemblies

House assemblies are conducted regularly in the boarding house by the Head of House or Assistant Head of House to discuss relevant house matters, important dates, and upcoming events with students.

Chapel

All boarding students attend Chapel twice each week. Middle School boarders attend Chapel together on Sundays and on one weekday. Day students attend Chapel once during the week.

Jobs

We ask every student to contribute in an emotional and practical sense within their boarding house. Boarders are expected to assist with small routine jobs around the house, such as tidying the kitchen, washing up and maintaining a tidy space around them. Jobs are completed after Prep and on Sunday mornings.

Prep (supervised homework)

Prep (short for 'Preparation') is quiet study time to prepare for the following day's schoolwork and assigned homework tasks. All students complete a session of Prep each weeknight in house.

06 Weekends

Saturday morning sport

As a member of the Associated Public Schools of Victoria (APS), all boarding and day students from Year 7 participate in compulsory sporting competitions or practice on Saturday mornings. There is a wide range of sports at different levels of achievement available for students. Whilst we do not prescribe which sports students play, we insist that they are involved in something.

Students in Years 5 and 6 do not compete on Saturday mornings.

Weekend activities - for boarders

It is essential we allow students to relax, have fun, and enjoy well-earned downtime with their friends outside of class. Every weekend is different, with the one constant being Saturday morning sporting commitments.

Once completed, students can meet friends at our Handbury Centre for Wellbeing for a swim, or use the gym, or have quality time to themselves. In addition, we offer a wide range of house and whole school activities for students to engage in. Example activities include Saturday night movies, woodfired oven pizza nights, trips to the beach, Geelong and Melbourne, fun runs, mountain biking in the You Yangs, theatre trips and cinema outings.

07 Co-curricular activities

Activities programme

The Activities programme takes place after school on Thursday afternoon for all boarding students and changes from term to term. Examples of activities include robotics, clay target shooting, fencing, yoga, fitness, art and relaxing board games. Rehearsals for the Middle School production occur in Term 3.

Ballet

Ballet tuition is provided by an accredited teacher of the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD). Students may choose to take RAD examinations and participate in the annual ballet concert.

Debating and public speaking

Debating always attracts much interest amongst students and parents. The Geelong Grammar School Public Speaking team participate in competitions in the Geelong area with local schools.

Music

Music is an integral and energetic part of our learning community that nurtures engagement, and inspires loyalty, teamwork, and dedication.

The Middle School Music programme is a compulsory element in the weekly timetable with all Middle School students participating in the afterschool programme on Monday afternoons. Students have the opportunity to participate in ensemble music making - including Brass, Woodwind, Percussion, Strings, Voice and contemporary instruments.

Year 5 and 6 students participate in the 'Starling Singers' Middle School Primary choir group which meets once a week to practice and perform.

Individual, group instrumental and vocal tuition is also offered at Corio Campus and does not require students to be enrolled in music as an academic subject to participate. Lesson lengths are generally between 30 and 60 minutes, depending on the student's level. Details of instrumental and vocal tuition are provided in Hive.

Outdoor Education – Camps

Year level camps are scheduled in Term 1 for Years 5 to 7, and Term 4 for Year 8 students, and have included locations such as Ballarat, Canberra and Anglesea.

In Year 8, students experience 'The Journey', joining either the Great Victorian Bike Ride or the Lake Eildon Adventure.

Performing Arts

The school hosts a vibrant and diverse range of dramatic compositions. Each year, our Middle School students look forward to the opportunity to perform and be involved in a full-scale production, with past musicals including *Shrek*, *The Lion King*, and *Aladdin*. Rehearsals occur in Term 3 for a Term 4 performance.

Relay for Charity

The Relay for Charity community fundraiser is a popular event for Year 8 students. Students apply to be selected and collaborate as a team, raising funds for a nominated charity. Such endeavours are complemented by students attracting sponsors who support them on the last day of Term 2 when students complete a six-hour relay marathon.

Sport

Sport is an integral part of a student's time at Geelong Grammar School. The playing fields offer students opportunities to develop physical skills and nurture their social and emotional skills, especially helping to build resilience among young adults.

Sport is a compulsory activity at school, and it is our hope the habits learned will last a lifetime. All Geelong Grammar School students must participate in a summer and winter season of sport and are encouraged to participate in Athletics in the spring season.

The sports on offer for Middle School students can change from year to year based on interest. Middle School sports may include Australian Rules Football, Badminton, Cricket, Hockey, Netball, Rowing, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis and Touch Rugby. The final sports on offer for the academic year are published on Hive.

In Term 3, students may apply to do Snowsports if they are experienced competitors.

Year 5 and 6 students:
Students participate in a specific sporting programme for the Primary levels and are involved in the School Sport Victoria (SSV) competition with other Geelong schools. Sport training is compulsory and held on a Tuesday after classes and on Wednesdays during class time. Year 5 and 6 students do not play competition sport on Saturdays.

Year 7 and 8 students:
Sport is compulsory for Year 7 and 8, including competition matches on Saturday mornings. Training is after school on Tuesday and Wednesday and matches played on Saturday morning. Most sports are played competitively in the Associated Public Schools (APS), and local Geelong sporting associations.

08 Exeats, attendance and travel

Exeats

Exeats (leave from school)

Exeats provide the opportunity for students to have a break from the boarding environment and enjoy time with their parents and families, nominated guardians or with the families of other Geelong Grammar School students.

Mid-term exeats

Mid-term exeats are compulsory breaks in the academic calendar and occur in the middle of terms 1, 2, 3 and 4. On these weekends, students will leave the campus on Friday afternoon or after their Saturday sport commitments and return to campus by 7pm (and after 5pm) on Monday. Term 4 exeat extends to 7pm on Tuesday.

Dates of mid-term exeats are announced in the preceding year and marked in the school calendar. Parents can view the Term Dates via Hive and the GGS website. Parents, guardians and students are encouraged to plan mid-term exeats well in advance.

Weekend leave

Boarding students are permitted weekend leave (i.e. Saturday and/or Sunday) most weekends. Public holidays are not observed at Geelong Grammar School unless they coincide with an exeat weekend or school holiday period.

Weekend exeats begin on Saturdays following the conclusion of sports commitments. Students must return to house by 8 pm on Sunday evening or 8am on Monday morning.

Weekday exeats

Weekday exeats are not encouraged and permitted only occasionally for students to have a meal with their parents or guardians visiting the school. On those occasions, students may be

absent from school following sport or other commitments and must return in time for bedtime routines at 8:30pm.

Process for applying for exeats and leave

Students apply for leave online through the REACH management system, which connects families to the boarding houses to ensure an efficient and safe leave approval process.

Students initiate a leave request by completing the required fields, including the exit destination, full address, and times for departure and arrival. This is automatically emailed to parents/guardians for permission to be granted before routing to the Head of House for approval. Leave involving a host will need to be approved by parents and the host. This is a simple process, enabled by email notifications generated by the system. Entering the leave request is the responsibility of the student.

For weekend exeat, requests need to be submitted online and approved by parents, guardians or hosts by 8:30pm Wednesday to allow time for the Head of House to review and approve.

All leave is subject to the student not being required for school activities.

Travel arrangements to and from exeat destinations are the responsibility of parents or guardians and must be detailed in the application.

Leave requests are required any time a boarding student is leaving the Corio Campus unless they are under the direct supervision of a Geelong Grammar School staff member (e.g. school excursion, house activity, school sport) or are on house sanctioned weekend shopping leave to pre-approved locations subject to the relevant curfews and permitted duration.

Absence

For parents of day students, if your child will be absent from school due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, please email the Head of House, or complete the Absentee form via Hive.

For planned short absences for boarding students, parents should email their Head of House. Requests for more extended periods of absence, longer than one week, should be addressed to the Head of Middle School. It is expected that students do not take holidays during term time.

Refer to 'Exeats' for information on weekend leave.

Airports

Parents should be aware that, given the travel time from Corio Campus to Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine), students need to leave Corio at least three hours before the departure time of international flights. Students can use the Gull Airport Shuttle service to and from Tullamarine for all flights. International flight tickets must be purchased by parents and sent to the Head of House as far ahead as possible. Domestic flights may also depart from Avalon Airport, which is approximately 20 minutes from Corio.

Buses

The school operates many bus routes travelling daily to and from the Corio Campus for day students. The buses are available only to Geelong Grammar students and travel from Altona, Anglesea, Ceres, Drysdale, Highton, Newtown, Ocean Grove, Point Cook, Toorak, Torquay and Williamstown. Most buses are fitted with the Bus Minder system, which allows students to 'tap' on and 'tap' off, providing parents with real-time information on their child's location whilst in transit. Up to date timetables and route descriptions are provided in Hive.

At exeats and the end of term, the school coordinates bus travel to and from Corio Campus, transferring students to Southern Cross Station, Tullamarine Airport and Toorak Campus. In addition, service to the Albury/Wodonga border has been provided for students over recent times due to border restrictions and when required. Parents are advised of details for the bus service via the Head of House, and announcements from the Principal and Head of Campus.

Commencement and conclusion of a term

Students need to arrive back on time at the start of term. All boarding students are expected to be in their house before 7pm on the evening before classes commence. At the end of term, students may depart from Thursday afternoon, and up to 8am on Friday. Our academic program runs until the last day of term, and we ask that is recognised when making travel arrangements. Requests for early departures will only be considered if there is a significant reason for departure. Heads of House need to receive all requests for early departures or late arrivals well in advance where possible.

Taxis

Payment for the service will be by cash or cab charge, which incurs a 20% accounting fee and is passed on to the user. Cab charges, which the issuer must authorise, are available only from Heads of House, their deputies, and teachers in charge of sports and activities. Taxi companies will not accept any other form or docket/requisition. The School will not be responsible for the payment of any unauthorised taxi trips, and students must return any unused dockets to the person who issued them. They must not be altered or given to other students. For reasons related to child safety, we do not advise the use of Uber type services.

Travel arrangements

Whilst the School will provide reasonable assistance to ensure that satisfactory travel arrangements are made for all students travelling to and from the School, it is the responsibility of parents or guardians to ensure adequate travel arrangements are made. Accordingly, the School does not accept responsibility in any respect for those arrangements.

Consequently, when making travel arrangements, parents or guardians should ensure that adequate arrangements are made not only for travel but, where necessary, for the supervision of students travelling to or from the School. In general, all travel bookings (air/rail/bus) need to be confirmed at least two weeks before the end of term.

Visitors to boarding houses

All external visitors to boarding houses must do so via communication with the Head of House. Visitors do not include casual staff working in the houses or tutors employed by families to provide academic tuition. All visitors must inform the Head of House, or the tutor on duty, at a minimum. The Head of House will have the opportunity to approve the visit to campus and make arrangements for all visitors to do this in a manner that observes the Geelong Grammar School Child Safety Code of Conduct. Visitors are not permitted to enter a student's room; instead, all visitors must stay in shared spaces in the house.

09 Clothing and Uniform

Uniform

The Geelong Grammar School uniform can only be purchased from the GGS uniform shop, located in the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing at Corio Campus, either in person or remotely if required.

Uniform requirements and the uniform shop opening hours are provided on the school website and in Hive.

To contact the uniform shop directly, please email: uniformshop@ggs.vic.edu.au or phone +61 3 5273 9329

A range of pre-loved uniform items is available for purchase in good condition, and we encourage families to recycle uniforms with us.

Uniforms should be worn correctly and neatly at all times. Girls' dresses and kilts should be of a length that finishes just above the knee. A sports uniform is only to be worn at designated times.

The black GGS fleece is not an official uniform item and should only be worn for sports training. The black GGS raincoat should only be worn on rainy days and not as a substitute for a blazer.

Formal uniform, known as 'No. 1', is worn on special occasions (e.g. Anzac Day) and to chapel on Sundays. Students will be notified by their Head of House when required to dress in their No. 1s.

Clothing - for boarders

Casual clothes may be worn on weekends and in the evening within the boarding house. All clothing items should be named. It is not necessary to bring an extensive casual wardrobe to

school — less is more. Three changes of tidy casual clothing and one change of smart casual clothing is sufficient. Clothes should be machine washable and able to be tumble-dried.

What to bring - for boarders

In addition to school and sports uniform requirements, stationery, books and personal hygiene items, boarding students should bring the following:

- Casual clothing (see 'Clothing' section)
- Mesh laundry bag, available from uniform shop (4)
- Name tapes, available from uniform shop (24 dozen, 6 extra for House Assistant)
- Pyjamas (3)
- Underwear (10)
- Bathers, GGS pair is compulsory, but extra pair is recommended
- Thongs for shower
- Suitable casual shoes to wear to dinner
- Doona, single size recommended (1)
- Doona covers, single size recommended (2)
- Woolen rug, school rug recommended (1)
- Towels, available from uniform shop (4)
- Weekend case or bag/backpack, GGS sport back pack recommended (1)
- Sleeping bag for overnight stays and camps, available from uniform shop
- Brush and comb, available from uniform shop
- Nail clippers, available from uniform shop
- Toothbrush and toothpaste, available from uniform shop
- Shampoo/conditioner, available from uniform shop
- Soap, available from uniform shop
- Deodorant, no aerosols permitted
- Small basket to hold all shower items (1)
- Wrist watch with vibrating alarm, or Small alarm clock (smart watches not permitted in Middle School)
- Inexpensive headphones
- Small umbrella (1)
- Small washing basket for personal washing use, if student is likely to require this

Optional items:

- Photographs, posters, appropriate pictures
- Personal iPods and MP3 players

Storage in Boarding House

Each student is provided with a hanging cupboard, chest of drawers and bedside table to store their personal belongings.

10 General Information - A to Z

Bedding - for boarders

The school supplies a mattress protector, fitted sheet, pillow and pillowcase. A pillowcase protector and a flat sheet are available on request. Students should bring their doona as well as two doona covers. Extra pillows and pillowcases are optional. A sleeping bag is required for camps.

Bicycles and skateboards

Students may bring their bicycle or skateboard to school. A locked bike shed is available for storage, and students are responsible for ensuring their equipment is safely locked up. Students are permitted to ride their bikes around designated areas of the campus. Heads of House may allow longer excursions in groups of three. Helmets are compulsory whenever bikes or skateboards are being ridden, and protective knee and elbow pads are required for skateboarding.

Books and supplies

Books are ordered through Campion Education and are delivered to the School at the commencement of the school year. More details for booklist ordering codes and dates are provided in Hive.

The Corio Campus book room, located in the Cook Quad, sells a range of pens and pencils, general stationery, books and novels to students and is open during term time, Monday to Friday.

Computers

Middle School students are required to have a personal laptop computer which is provided by the School and must be ordered prior to commencement. Access to a personal laptop

computer allows the development of capabilities needed to learn, collaborate and communicate, and prepares students for future digital demands.

Computers are ordered through the nominated school provider. A summary of the GGS laptop programme and instructions on how to order a computer may be found in Hive.

Electrical Applicances - for boarders

Students can bring electric toothbrushes and international power adaptors into the boarding house. These may be used at the discretion of the Head of House. These items must be named.

The following appliances are prohibited and must not be brought onto campus: cooking appliances (including kettles, coffee machines and toasters), electric blankets, air conditioners, heaters, refrigerators and televisions.

Food

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are enjoyed in the Darling Hall, apart from some occasions when breakfast or dinner is taken 'in house'. Supper is enjoyed following Prep each night in the house, and homemade pizzas and BBQ breakfasts are enjoyed on occasion during term time. Each house has several pantries where students can prepare morning tea, snacks and drinks.

Dietary needs

Students with dietary needs should contact the House Assistant. Kitchen staff will also be notified, and special meals will be provided.

Snacks / 'Tuck'

Food for snacking (known as Tuck in the boarding house) may be brought into the house for consumption at recess and on weekend afternoons. Food should be safely packaged in plastic sealable containers or cans and should not require refrigeration. Suitable options include dried fruit, wholegrain crackers, cups of soup and bags of air dried popcorn. Students have access to fresh fruit at every meal and is always available in the house.

Junk food is discouraged, and food containing nuts and nut products are not permitted. Chewing gum, soft drinks and energy drinks are not permitted.

Hair and make-up

Students are expected to keep their hair clean and well-groomed each day. All hair is to be of natural colour. Coloured nail polish, shellac, acrylic nails and extensions are not permitted. Make-up should not be worn with school uniforms.

ID cards

Identification cards, including a photograph and individual barcode, are used to borrow books from the libraries, purchase items from the book room or Uniform Shop, commuter bus travel, and photocopy use.

Insurance of personal belongings

Students' belongings such as computers, phones and bicycles are not covered by the School's insurance. If cover is needed, it must be arranged by parents. All personal electrical appliances should be labelled with the student's name and fully insured. The School takes no responsibility for articles of value that are left in bedrooms or studies. Each student is provided with a lockable cupboard to store their personal belongings.

Jewellery

The only earrings that are permitted to be worn are a single pair of studs or sleepers. Earrings are only to be worn in the ear lobe. Apart from a watch, no other jewellery may be worn. Tattoos are not permitted.

Laundry - for boarders

Laundry within each house is managed by the House Assistant and sent to an external laundry facility every week with a 48-hour turnaround. Items such as blazers, trousers, kilts and pullovers are dry-cleaned. Students are responsible for distributing their dirty laundry to the correct place in the boarding house and collecting clean laundry regularly.

There are washing machines, clotheslines, and a drying room for students to wash small loads of casual clothes within each house. Expensive clothing items should not be brought to school as they are unsuitable for industrial laundering and tumble drying.

Library

The Fisher and Panckridge libraries have an extensive range of resources available to Middle School students. At their core, they aspire to stimulate curiosity and encourage a love of reading and learning across all year levels. We encourage students to use the library for quiet study and collaborative work.

Lockers

Each Day Student is provided with a private locker for storing personal items during the day. Locks are issued to students at the beginning of the year.

Mobile phones

Middle School students are not permitted to use their mobile phones during the school day.

Boarding students may bring mobile phones to school, but they must be kept with their Head of House, who will, with discretion, allow use at appropriate times: e.g before Prep time in the evening, and specific times on the weekend.

Day students are always required to keep their mobile phones in their locker during schooltime.

Any student found to have their phone with them outside of the permitted times will have it confiscated.

Money and valuables

Students should use a debit card or cash card to access their money. Students should not keep cash on their person or within their dorms, except in small amounts (e.g. $20). More significant sums of money, passports and other travel documents should be stored in the care of the Head of House.

Name tapes

Name tapes can be ordered from the Geelong Grammar School uniform shop. Only sew-in name tapes are permitted, and they must state your child's full name and house code as

follows:

JANE SMITH, HI

House codes: Highton (HI), Kunuwarra (KU), Otway (OT), Parrwang (PA)

All items of clothing should be named. For trousers, kilts, shorts and underwear, name tapes should be sewn on the inside of the middle-back of the waistband. For shirts, jumpers, blazers and tops, the tape should be sewn inside the middle of the back of the neck. For socks, sew the tape vertically on the inside of the top of each sock. Shoes should be named with marking ink.

The school sewing room can name your child's clothing. Please arrange this through the uniform shop.

Prohibited items

Please do not allow your child to bring the following items to school: aerosol cans (e.g. deodorant, hair spray), candles and oil burners, chewing gum, incense sticks, soft drinks, electrical appliances (as previously listed), liquid shoeshine, lighters and laser beams. Items that are expensive or irreplaceable should remain at home.

Please refer to the Student Behaviour Rules available via Hive for expectations and requirements regarding student behaviour, including prohibited substances and items, to ensure a safe and supportive learning and living environment for all in our community.

REACH

All students sign in and out of the boarding house via the REACH student management software. This allows our staff to monitor student locations on and off campus safely, and this software is also used to manage exeat and leave requests.

Toiletries

A consistent supply of shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and feminine hygiene products is required. These items may be purchased at the uniform shop, and other essential chemist items can be ordered through the House Assistant and charged to your account.

11 Health and wellbeing

At Corio Campus, we offer a comprehensive and interconnected network of care for our students so that their health and wellbeing needs are fully supported.

In order to ensure the best possible health care for each student, it is important that parents communicate to the Kennedy Health Centre and Head of House any health and wellbeing considerations for their child, in particular any ongoing health matters and/or medication that their child has been prescribed. The Kennedy Health Centre, House Assistant or Head of House should also be notified if any new medication has been prescribed or the student has suffered an illness during the school holidays.

Kennedy Health Centre

The Kennedy Health Centre is an on-campus clinic, open 24 hours during the school term. Students with minor ailments will be treated by staff in the house, and all other matters will be referred to the Kennedy Health Centre where qualified staff are always available throughout the day and night.

Boarding students have access to the GP clinic and physiotherapy service that are offered through the Centre. The Kennedy Health Centre has the capacity to accommodate nine students if a student requires overnight care or observation during the day.

Appointments can be made through the House Assistant/Head of House, or directly to Kennedy Health Centre via phone or email. Parents are encouraged to have private health insurance and ambulance cover in the State of Victoria in case a student requires hospital care for serious injury or illness. Students who have a student visa must have Overseas Student Health Cover.

Kennedy Health Centre:

T: +61 3 5273 9302 **E:** KennedyM@ggs.vic.edu.au

Counselling services

Student counselling support is available to students in the Kennedy Health Centre with our qualified team of psychologists and counsellors. This is a confidential service offered from Monday to Friday and available to all students and families to help identify and support educational, behavioural, emotional, psychological, social and developmental concerns.

Our professional team has a detailed understanding of the complex needs of our learning community and can assist in supporting through transition and adjustment difficulties, stress and anxiety, sleep issues, family issues, friendships and relationships, Indigenous support, gender diversity, sexuality, self-confidence, low mood and other matters that can arise through adolescence.

For ongoing counselling needs, it is the School's policy for families to acquire the services of external health professionals. This allows for continuity of health services during school holidays as well as when students have graduated from school and require the ongoing care from external health professionals.

Appointments with counsellors can be made through the Head of House by the student or parent/guardian, or through the Kennedy Health Centre via phone or email.

Student Counselling Services:

T: +61 3 5273 9302 **E:** KennedyM@ggs.vic.edu.au

Dental and orthodontist appointments

Regular medical and dental appointments should be restricted to holidays or after class so that interruption to schooling is kept to a minimum.

Medicines

Students are not permitted to self-medicate. All prescription and non-prescription medicines that are brought to school must be handed in to the House Assistant or Head of House. This includes pain relief medication such as Panadol as well as vitamins. Medicine is administered either by a member of house staff or the Kennedy Health Centre, with a record of dosage maintained.

Sleep

Sleep allows students to gather the physical and mental 'recharge' needed to participate in a busy school life. On weekends and exeats, students must be mindful of the need for sleep. Late nights establish a sleep debt which is difficult to overcome. The consequences of this seriously reduce a student's capacity to productively manage academic and co-curricular activities. There needs to be a general acceptance by students that having the right amount of sleep is important, and we encourage parents to discuss this with their children.

Sun safety

Exposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Students must ensure that they avoid unnecessary harmful exposure to the sun and wear appropriate protection when exposed to the sun, including:

- Shirt (long-sleeved if possible)

- Hat (wide-brimmed) or GGS cap for specific sports — compulsory for sport and PE lessons

- Sunglasses (close-fitting)

- Sunscreen

Note: hats, caps and sunscreen are available from the GGS Shop

Swim safety

All new students to GGS or previously untested swimmers are required to complete a water safety competency check to enable them to participate safely in water-based activities, camps and excursions. Swimming lessons can be arranged for those students who do not pass the test. Students who do not pass the test are able to arrange swimming lessons by liaising with the Sports Office team. Students with an RLSS Bronze Star or Swim and Survive Award may be exempt.

12 Middle School communication

We believe it is fundamentally essential to work in partnership with parents to optimise student development and outcomes. We utilise a range of communication tools to connect with parents and students effectively.

Hive

The Hive is our primary communication portal for parents and the learning platform for all students from ELC to Year 12 across all campuses. Hive is a centralised point of reference for most school matters for parents, including accessing student reports, statement of fees, updating contact details, viewing the school calendar, student timetables, co-curricular information, and other important matters. In addition, Hive provides parents with access to resources and information related to their child and matters for the whole school community. It is explicitly designed to be the central communication hub for parents, reducing the risk of overlooked emails and a centralised information repository for easy retrieval.

Parents will be provided with a username and password for Hive in the year prior to their child commencing with the school and encouraged to visit the Hive regularly.

Email digests are sent daily at 6pm to notify parents of news, pastoral alerts or grades and feedback released during that day. Families with students across multiple campuses will access student campus pages directly from the Hive dashboard.

Hive can be accessed at: https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au

Assistance with login details or access issues should be directed to the IT Service Desk at support@ggs.vic.edu.au

Hive app

The Hive app allows key features to be easily accessed from the app home page, including news, sports fixtures and results, notifications and calendar. Notifications can be formatted to

suit the individual user.

The Hive app is available free from the iTunes App Store for iPhone and iPad users and Google Play App Store for android phone users, and can be found by searching 'Geelong Grammar School'.

Calendar

The school calendar is available in Hive and via the Hive app. It is regularly updated. Printed school calendars are also distributed at the start of each year.

Class contact lists

Class contact lists are available via Hive, and parents can choose whether they wish for their details to be shared with other families. Please ensure your contact details are kept up to date via the Hive.

Fee Accounts

School fee account enquiries should be directed to the Accounts Department:
Telephone: +61 3 5273 9200
Email: AccountsSupport@ggs.vic.edu.au

Parent-student-teacher conversations

Parent-student-teacher conversations occur mid Term 2 and mid Term 3. The purpose of these conversations is to provide the opportunity to discuss learning progress, approaches to learning, and areas and strategies for improvement and development. Further details are provided by the Head of Learning and Teaching and Head of House and communicated through Hive.

Social media

Geelong Grammar School news for all campuses is regularly posted on the School's official social media channels.

Instagram: @geelonggrammar
Twitter: @geelonggrammar
Facebook: @GeelongGrammarSchool

We encourage you to engage via our GGS social media channels. A simple like or share of a GGS social media post can help connect others to the exceptional opportunities our students enjoy at our School.

Some boarding houses have individual Facebook and Instagram pages which you can request to join through the Head of House, however, these are not administered by the School.

13 Community

Nurturing a strong sense of community is one of our biggest priorities at Geelong Grammar School. Throughout the year, we endeavour to provide a number of opportunities for our families to connect and experience the joy of being a part of a warm, inclusive community.

Athletics Day

All four school campuses participate in Athletics Day held at Corio in August each year. The day commences with an outdoor chapel service, followed by house events. Food is available for purchase and parents are invited to bring a picnic and stay for the day.

Family Day

Family Day celebrates the Corio community and is a memorable day on the school calendar for families to meet in a relaxed setting. Family Day takes place in Term 1. The day culminates with the John Landy Duathlon, which finishes at the SPACE, where all families can enjoy a delicious afternoon tea with jazz.

Friends of Middle School (parent association)

Established in 1998, the Friends of Middle School (FoMS) plays a vital role as a connection point for all Middle School parents to meet other parents and raise funds to support Middle School programmes and students. The FoMS committee hosts regular meetings during term time and several social gatherings during the year. We warmly invite all parents to be involved in our FoMS.

For further information about becoming involved in the FoMS, please contact supportgroups@ggs.vic.edu.au

Hirschfeld-Mack Club

The Hirschfeld-Mack Club is a parent support group for the arts at Geelong Grammar School. News of arts events and achievements around the school is regularly posted on Instagram @hirschclubggs. For further information about becoming a member of the club, or to sign up for the club's newsletter, contact supportgroups@ggs.vic.edu.au

House dinner

House dinners take place in second semester each year in a venue in or around Geelong or Melbourne and are a welcomed opportunity for parents to connect with other parents of the same house. The Head of House communicates details for the event through Hive.

Sport support groups

A number of parent groups play an active role in supporting sport at GGS. For further information, contact supportgroups@ggs.vic.edu.au

Brazier Club (Sailing)

Doc Dunn Club (Soccer)

Frank Sedgman Club (Tennis)

Geelong Grammar Equestrian

Geelong Grammar Netball

Geelong Grammar Hockey

Geelong Grammar Polo Club

Geelong Grammar Snowsports

Landy Club (Athletics)

GGS Rugby Club (Rugby)

Tunbridge Club (Cricket)

Newman Club (Football)

WH Pincott Club (Rowing)

14 Policies

All our students have responsibilities and duties – to their houses, to the School, to themselves and to each other.

Up to date school policies and procedures can be found on HIVE, and include:

- Student Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct
- Duty of Care Policy
- Supervision in Boarding Policy
- Inclusivity Policy
- Student Behaviour Rules
- Community Code of Conduct
- Student Anti-Bullying Policy
- Student Cyber Safety Policy and Guidelines
- Student Drugs and Alcohol Policy
- Student Search and Confiscation Policy
- Suspensions and Expulsions Procedure
- Student Leave and Exeat Procedure
- Overseas Student Policies and Procedures
- Student Complaints Handling Policy and Guide
- School Health Centres Policy
- Anaphylaxis Management Policy
- Concussion Policy
- Eating Disorder Policy
- Self-Harm Policy
- GGS Bursary Guidance Statement
- Uniform Regulations

Overseas Students

- The School has specific policies and procedures which govern and support our overseas students enrolled at the School pursuant to a student visa (subclass 500). Importantly, overseas students need to be aware of the Course Progress, Attendance and Progression

Policy, and Complaints and Appeals Policy. These can be found on the Overseas Student Policies & Procedures page on Hive.

The School's Overseas Student Manager can answer any queries regarding current overseas students:

Laura Shandley | Overseas Student Manager

Email: lshandley@ggs.vic.edu.au

Phone: +61 3 5273 9138 or +61499 331 746

GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®
EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

CORIO CAMPUS HANDBOOK

SENIOR SCHOOL

Last updated July 2, 2024

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01 About Geelong Grammar School

Welcome to Geelong Grammar School, a vibrant and pioneering school that provides exceptional learning opportunities built on real-world experiences and genuine human connections. Established in 1855, we advance our heritage through innovation that champions a well-rounded, modern education for young people.

Corio Campus

The space to flourish

Corio Campus offers a unique 'village' setting located on a private 230-hectare estate on the outskirts of Geelong and an hour south of Melbourne, wholly removed from local traffic or the bustle and distractions of city living.

Our students enjoy a busy, stimulating, and supportive learning environment with ample open space, playing fields and gardens with a magnificent blend of beautiful historic buildings and modern architecture. Our location and scale allow students a sense of freedom and independence within the safe parameters of our school grounds. Most of our academic staff live on campus; there are almost 100 family residences nestled in and amongst the boarding houses, creating a nurturing, interconnected community with a strong sense of family and belonging.

Senior School framework

Each year, our Senior School team is responsible for the care and education of more than 600 students in Year 10 to Year 12 . We welcome students from all areas of Australia and overseas and celebrate the tremendous diversity this brings. All students enjoy the opportunity to live, learn and develop with friends from different backgrounds, cultures and life experiences.

Our Senior School programmes aim to support independent, confident learners; young people of integrity and compassion who commit themselves to achieve their personal goals and

contribute fully to school life.

We want to stimulate in students confidence in learning, an enthusiasm for a broad range of activities, respect for others and a desire to contribute to the betterment of the community. Vital to this aim is the house system, for it is in the houses that our students develop the relationships that will sustain them throughout their years at the School.

The Houses

Our houses are far more than places of residence; they are vibrant, close-knit communities where staff and students develop close working relationships and where the opportunities for pastoral care, individual attention and supervised study are greatly enhanced. Together, our great houses make the great community at Corio.

There are eight Senior School boarding houses – four for girls and four for boys – and two co-educational day boarding houses. Each boarding house is home to students from Year 10 to Year 12, with approximately the same number of students at each year level.

Years 11 and 12 students typically sleep in single bedrooms/studies, and Year 10 students share dormitory rooms comprising four students. The dorm rooms are located throughout the house to build stronger, inter-year level relationships. Students will rotate at the end of term or semester to allow a variety of friendships to develop over the year.

02 The options for students

In Senior School, students may enrol as a full boarder or day boarder. Both modes of enrolment have the advantage of guided academic support and access to exceptional facilities and co-curricular activities outside of traditional school hours.

Full boarding

Full boarding is the most common arrangement where students live in the boarding house during term time. Leave is available every second weekend with the first and last weekends of each term designated a “closed weekend” with no leave to be taken.

Day boarding

Many local students enjoy the opportunity of day boarding, which brings myriad benefits over a traditional day school. Day boarding provides students with the continued immersion into school life during the afternoon and evening hours, which has a continued impact on their school success.

A day boarder attends classes from 8.30 am to 3.40 pm and remains on campus to participate in sport and other co-curricular activities from 4 pm. Throughout the day, students can return to their house at morning tea and lunch to socialise with friends, visit the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing (gymnasium and pool), continue work in the Library, Art School and Music School and access additional teaching, coaching and learning support. Students enjoy dinner together and complete their homework (Prep) before returning home to their family each night, typically at 8.30 pm, and 3.45 pm on Fridays.

Parents should contact the Admissions Office to discuss potential changes to their child's boarding arrangements.

03 Boarding staff and roles

We have a team of compassionate staff who become integral to the lives of our students and work collaboratively to understand and support the needs of each individual under their care, including consideration for intellectual, physical, spiritual, social and emotional aspects of a students' development.

Vice Principal | Residential Education, Care & Community

As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, the Vice Principal brings a vital link between executive management and the living and learning community members of the Corio Campus.

Heads of Senior School

The Heads of Senior School are responsible for managing and coordination of programmes, policies, and actions to support a culture of quality teaching and learning in Senior School and enhance the delivery of our pastoral care programme.

Head of House

The Head of House is a pivotal figure across all aspects of a student's life in Senior School, overseeing the care and wellbeing of each student in their house, and upholding the rules, routines and expectations that are consistent with overall school policy.

Assistant Head of House

The Assistant Head of House supports the Head of House in the day-to-day running of the house and assists in overseeing each student's academic and pastoral needs.

House Mentors

House Mentors are vital in supporting a sense of community connectedness within each house. House Mentors are academic staff whose purpose is to maintain positive and supportive relationships within their mentor groups, consisting of around ten to twelve students. Mentor groups meet regularly each week, allowing House Mentors to check in with each student and respond to their pastoral, wellbeing and learning needs as they arise. They are the first point of contact for parents in addressing academic or pastoral needs.

House Assistant

House Assistants care for the general health and wellbeing of boarders and oversee the day-to-day matters of the house, such as laundry, cleanliness, daily operations, student movements and general care for students.

House prefects

Senior students play a vital role in helping the staff develop the cooperative and friendly atmosphere necessary to create a home away from home for all the students in the house. Prefect positions are allocated at the end of Year 11. All students are offered opportunities to develop their leadership skills through house activities, projects, charities, events such as dinners and house competitions.

The pastoral care programme

The house system underpins student care throughout Corio and ensures that every student is visible. Pastoral care encompasses boarding staff, teaching staff, supporting staff, sports coaches, school counsellors and psychologists, school nurses and the Chaplain. If a student needs to discuss any concern or issue, they will always have someone to turn to and someone watching out for them.

Who to contact?

Key to the success of our Senior School programme is the quality of communication between the School and home. There are six readily available points of contact for matters concerning your child, depending on the nature of the communication.

These include the Head of Campus, Heads of Senior Schools, Head of House, House Mentor,

House Assistant and the Kennedy Health Centre.

The Head of House and the student's House Mentor are responsible for the immediate needs of each student and are therefore the first point of contact for any questions or concerns.

Contact details for these members of staff can be found in the Hive.

Who to contact – for academic matters?

In relation to academic advancement, parents/guardians are encouraged to contact teachers and include the House Mentor in correspondence. This way, there is clear communication between house, teacher and home. This is critical to ensure that all those responsible for the students are informed and can act in the best interests of each child.

04 School routines

Boarding house routine

From rising time until lights out, life as a GGS boarder is purposeful and active.

A typical daily schedule for a Senior School boarding student is:

7.00am	Wake and shower
7.30am	Breakfast in the Dining Hall
8.15am	Tidy rooms and prepare for the day
8.30am	School activities – house assembly, self directed learning or Chapel
8.55am	Classes begin
10.40am	Recess – morning tea is enjoyed in the boarding house
1.00pm	Lunch available in Dining Hall
3.40pm	End of classes
4.00pm	Sport, co-curricular programme or study time
5.30pm	Dinner in Dining Hall
7.00pm	House assembly
7.10pm	Supervised Prep
9.00pm	Jobs and supper
10.00pm	Lights out – Yr 11 and Yr 12 may study quietly in their rooms

Day boarding routine

A typical daily schedule for a Senior School day boarding student:

8.20am	Arrive at School
8.30am	School activities – house assembly, self-directed learning or Chapel
8.55am	Classes begin

10.40am	Recess – morning tea is enjoyed in the day house
1.00pm	Lunch available in Dining Hall
3.40pm	End of classes
4.00pm	Sport or co-curricular programme or study time
5.30pm	Dinner in Dining Hall
6.55pm	House Assembly / Prep
8.30pm	Students depart from School

Regular parts of the day

Academic timetable

We operate on a 10-day cycle of six periods per day, from Monday to Friday.

Before class on most mornings, students are engaged in school activities, including house assembly, self-directed learning, meeting with the House Mentor, or Chapel.

Whole school assemblies occur every second Tuesday with a reduced five-period timetable for that day.

After school

After their academic timetable, Senior School students will either attend sport or co-curricular activities or have free time for additional study before attending dinner in the Dining Hall at 5:30 pm.

Assemblies

House assemblies are conducted every evening by the Head of House or Assistant Head of House to discuss relevant house matters, important dates on the calendar, and upcoming events with students.

Chapel

All boarding students attend Chapel twice each week. Senior School boarders attend Chapel together each Sunday evening and on one weekday according to their year level. Day boarders attend Chapel once during the week.

Jobs

We ask every student to contribute in an emotional and practical sense within their boarding house. Boarders are expected to assist with small routine jobs around the house, such as tidying the kitchen, washing up and maintaining a tidy space around them. Jobs are completed after Prep and on Sunday nights.

Prep (supervised homework)

Prep (short for 'Preparation') is quiet study time to prepare for the following day's schoolwork and assigned homework tasks. All students complete a session of Prep each weeknight in house. Year 11 and 12 students are permitted to 'sign out' of house during Prep to attend the Library or Art School. Although there is scheduled Prep time, it is essential that students also work independently and consistently on weekends.

05 Weekends

Saturday morning sport

As a member of the Associated Public Schools of Victoria (APS), all boarding and day boarding students participate in compulsory sporting competitions or practice on Saturday mornings. There is a wide range of sports at different levels of achievement available for students. Whilst we do not prescribe which sports students play, we insist that they are involved in something.

Weekend activities

It is vital that we provide opportunities for students to relax, have fun, and enjoy well-earned downtime with their friends. Examples of weekend activities can include Saturday night movies on the oval, woodfired oven pizza nights, trips to the beach or to Melbourne, mountain biking in the You Yangs, theatre trips and cinema outings.

Chapel is held on Sunday evenings on a bi-weekly rotation and is compulsory for students to attend if they are not on a weekend exeat. Senior School boarders may apply for permission to travel into Geelong by taxi for shopping and lunch on Saturday afternoons. On weekends, students can also enjoy access to the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing pool, gymnasium and social areas. Access to specialist areas outside houses (e.g. libraries, the Music School, the Art School, science laboratories) is also strongly encouraged over the weekend.

06 Co-curricular activities

Activities programme

Activities occur throughout the week for Years 10 to 12, mainly after school, and change from term to term.

Examples of the types of activities that students can be involved in are horse polo, Pilates, fencing, table tennis, sculling on the Barwon River, ceramics, clay target shooting, strength and conditioning, swimming lessons, barista and coffee art courses, first aid, lifeguarding and hospitality training.

Committees

Student committees help to foster a sense of belonging and purpose where students with common interests work together towards mutual goals. Equally, student committees are vital in championing student voices to shape change and improve the learning and living community. Examples of student committees include the Wellbeing Committee, the Academic Committee, and the Environment Committee. These are open to any students interested in being involved and coordinated by students with staff support as needed.

Community service

Each house has a community service representative who coordinates various charitable ventures throughout the year, such as the Red Cross Door Knock and the Red Shield Appeal. Service activities also take place during the week outside classroom hours. Service activities are an essential part of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and the Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) component of the IB Diploma Programme.

Debating and public speaking

Debating always attracts many students who participate in the inter-house and regional

competitions organised by the Debating Association of Victoria (DAV). Teams are selected on a year level basis. The Geelong Grammar School Public Speaking Team participates in the main public speaking competitions in the Geelong area.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

All students are eligible to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Most students will have completed their Bronze Award while at Timbertop and have completed the hiking component of the Silver Award during their final term at Timbertop.

Lorne 160

This is the School's largest fundraising event throughout the year. Students plan events to raise money for a charity nominated by the Lorne 160 team each year. It culminates in the students (approximately 16) running overnight from Geelong to Lorne and back in a relay. Students must apply to be part of this group, and criteria are published. Applications and interviews occur during Term 2. The run occurs on the last full day of Term 3.

Music

Music is an integral and energetic part of our learning community that nurtures engagement, and inspires loyalty, teamwork, and dedication. The School's broad music programme caters to all students, from the most serious academic to the hobbyist, offering tuition in various instruments from a team of over fifty visiting musicians.

Private instrumental and vocal tuition

Individual and group instrumental and vocal tuition is offered at Corio Campus and does not require students to be enrolled in music as an academic subject to participate. Lesson lengths are generally between 30 and 60 minutes, depending on the student's level.

Details for the instrumental and private tuition that is available are published in Hive. Students can enrol for instrumental and vocal tuition at the start of the year or preceding each term. Fees are charged to the school account in arrears on a termly basis.

Outdoor education – camps

Camps for Year 10 students are a compulsory component of the Year 10 programme. The Year 10 programme offers a different challenge and can include a variety of experiences for students to choose from.

Performing arts

The School hosts a vibrant and diverse range of dramatic compositions. School productions, which collectively equate to 12 per year at Corio Campus, vary from musicals and classics to the latest in contemporary drama, house plays of all types and small-cast, physical theatre pieces. Each year, our Middle School and Senior School students look forward to the opportunity to perform and be involved in a full-scale production. Past Senior School shows include *Chicago*, *Sense and Sensibility* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

The annual Senior School play takes place in Term 1, and the Senior School musical in Term 3, and are open to all Senior School students by audition. Most rehearsals take place during the week, with some occasional weekend days closer to the performance date.

Excursions are organised during the year to attend professional theatrical productions in Melbourne, and these are open to all interested students.

Sport

Sport is an integral part of a student's time at Geelong Grammar School. The playing fields offer students opportunities to develop physical skills and nurture their social and emotional skills, especially helping to develop resilience amongst young adults. Training and participating in sport in conjunction with other co-curricular and academic pursuits helps promote a healthy mind, body and spirit.

Sport is a compulsory activity , and it is our hope the habits learned will last a lifetime. All Geelong Grammar School students are required to participate in a summer and winter season of sport and are encouraged to participate in athletics in the spring season.

Sport training for Senior School students is typically scheduled on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. The Saturday morning competition fixture times are updated each week and made available through Hive.

07 Careers support for students

Our Careers Department works extensively with students from Year 10 onwards. In designated Year 10 careers classes (conducted during Pathways) and in partnership with Pathways Learning Coaches, students complete Morrisby Assessments that help connect interests, aptitudes, and personality with future career and study options. Students arriving in Years 11 and 12 also have the opportunity to complete Morrisby and the follow-up counselling session to discuss the report. Parents are also encouraged to be part of these sessions via Zoom meetings or in person.

Personalised support

Individual career appointments are available on-demand for all students throughout the year, with peak times leading up to subject selection and tertiary course applications. In addition, there are formal presentations to students and parents regarding the Victorian Certificate of Education, the International Baccalaureate Diploma and transition to tertiary education.

Careers Day

The annual Careers Day at the Corio Campus provides students and parents with the opportunity to talk to local and interstate universities and gap year providers, and residential colleges from the University of Melbourne. In partnership with the Old Geelong Grammarians Association , a mentor programme enables many Old Geelong Grammarians (OGGs) to return on this day to talk to students and parents about their workplace experiences post-school.

Overseas Tertiary Applications

Though most of our students elect to continue their education at Australian universities, we have students successfully applying to overseas institutions every year, including high-profile universities in both the USA and UK. Assistance and support through the overseas

application process are individual and ongoing. Presentations from Education USA and visiting universities provide valuable insight into the application process and the options available. SAT entrance tests are offered at GGS several times a year. UK admission tests through Cambridge Assessments are also available on campus in November. Overseas students can attend the University of Melbourne's Schools Partnership Initiative (MSPI), which offers unique opportunities and assistance to overseas students.

Supporting diverse pathways

Not all students intend to go to university immediately following Year 12. Therefore, the Careers Department also offers individual support with gap year applications, resumé production, scholarship applications, sporting scholarships, work experience, internships and job applications.

08 Exeats, attendance and travel

Exeats

Exeats (leave from school)
Exeats provide the opportunity for students to have a break from the boarding environment and enjoy time with their parents and families, nominated guardians or with the families of other Geelong Grammar School students.

Mid-term exeats
Mid-term exeats are compulsory breaks in the academic calendar and occur in the middle of terms 1, 2, 3 and Term 4 (for Years 5-11). On these weekends, students will leave the campus on Friday afternoon, or at the completion of their Saturday sport commitments, and return to campus by 7pm on the Monday evening. Dates of mid-term exeats are announced in the preceding year and marked in the school calendar. To make the best use of mid-term exeats, parents, guardians and students are encouraged to plan them well in advance.

Weekend exeats
Boarding students are permitted weekend exeat (i.e. either Saturday and/or Sunday) every second weekend. The first and last weekend of each term are 'closed' and exeat arrangements on those weekends are not permitted. Public holidays are not observed at GGS unless they coincide with an exeat weekend or school holiday period.

Weekend exeats begin on Saturdays following the conclusion of sports commitments. Students must return to house by 6.30pm on Saturday or Sunday evenings. Exeats are not taken on Friday night except under extenuating circumstances and in consultation with the Head of House and with approval from the Head of Campus.

Weekday exeats
Weekday exeats are not encouraged and permitted only occasionally in order for students to have a meal with their parents or guardians who may be visiting the School. On those occasions, students may be absent from school following sport or other commitments and must return in time for roll call at 7pm.

Process for applying for exeats and leave

Students apply for leave online through the REACH management system which connects families to the boarding houses to ensure an efficient and safe leave approval process.

Students initiate a leave request by completing the required fields, including the exit destination. full address and times for departure and arrival. This is automatically emailed to parents/guardians for permission to be granted before routing to the Head of House for approval. Leave involving a host will need to be approved by parents and the host. This is a simple process, enabled by email notifications generated by the system. Entering leave is the responsibly of the student.

For weekend exeat, requests need to be submitted online and approved by parents, guardians or hosts by 7pm Thursday evening to allow time for the Head of House to review and approve. Overseas and exchange students are asked to submit a leave request before Wednesday 10am ahead of the exeat weekend to allow sufficient time for the parent/guardian, home stay provider, Overseas Student Officer and Head of House to review and approve.

All leave is subject to the students not being required for school activities.

Travel arrangements to and from exeat destinations are the responsibility of parents or guardians and must be detailed in the application.

Leave requests are required any time a boarding student is leaving the Corio Campus, unless they are under the direct supervision of a GGS staff member (e.g. school excursion, house activity, school sport), or are on house sanctioned weekend shopping leave to pre-approved locations subject to the relevant curfews and permitted duration.

Absence

For parents of day boarders, if your child will be absent from School due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, please email the Head of House, or complete the absentee form via the Hive app.

For planned short absences for boarding students, parents should email their Head of House. Requests for longer periods of absence, longer than one week, should be addressed to the Head of Corio. It is expected that students do not take holidays during term time. Refer to 'Exeats'

for information on weekend leave.

Airports

Parents should be aware that, given the travel time from Corio Campus to Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine), students need to leave Corio at least three hours before the departure time of international flights. Students can use the Gull Airport Shuttle service to and from Tullamarine for all flights. International flight tickets must be purchased by parents and sent to the Head of House as far ahead as possible. Domestic flights may also depart from Avalon Airport, which is approximately 20 minutes from Corio.

Buses

The School operates a number of bus routes traveling to and from the Corio Campus every day. Most buses are fitted with the Bus Minder System which allows students to 'tap' on and 'tap' off, providing parents with real-time information on the location of their child whilst in transit. Up to date timetables and route descriptions are provided in the Hive.

Over exeat and end of term, the School coordinates bus travel to and from Corio Campus, transferring students to Southern Cross Station, Tullamarine Airport and Toorak Campus. Parents are advised of details for the bus service via the Head of House, and through announcements from the Principal and Head of Campus.

Commencement and conclusion of term

It is important for students to arrive back on time at the start of term. It is expected that all boarding students are in their house before 7pm on the evening prior to classes commencing. At the end of term, students may depart from Thursday afternoon and up to 8am on Friday morning at the end of term. Our academic program runs until the last day of term and we ask that is recognised when making travel arrangements. Requests for early departures will only be considered if there is a significant cause for departure. Heads of House need to receive all requests for early departures or late arrivals well in advance where possible.

Student motor vehicles

As per the Student Behaviour Rules available in Hive, students cannot drive a motor vehicle

on the School's Corio Campus, or to or from the School's Corio Campus without the permission of Heads of Senior School and Head of House. Students may only be a passenger in a motor vehicle when the driver is a person approved by parents/legal guardians or the Head of House. If students have an approved vehicle on campus, they must provide their car keys to the Head of House and may not drive other students in the vehicle.

Taxis

Payment for the service will be by cash or cab charge which incurs a 20% accounting fee and is passed on to the user. Cab charges, which must be authorised by the issuer, are available only from Heads of House, or their deputies, and teachers in charge of sports and activities. Taxi companies will not accept any other form or docket/requisition. The School will not be responsible for the payment of any unauthorised taxi trips. Students must return any unused dockets to the person who issued them. They must not be altered or given to other students. For child safety reasons , we do not advise the use of Uber type services.

Travel arrangements

Whilst the School will provide reasonable assistance to ensure that satisfactory travel arrangements are made for all students travelling to and from the School, it is the responsibility of parents or guardians to ensure satisfactory travel arrangements are made. The School does not accept responsibility in any respect for those arrangements. Consequently, when making travel arrangements, parents or guardians should ensure that adequate arrangements are made not only for travel but, where necessary, for the supervision of students travelling to or from the School. In general, all travel bookings (air/rail/bus) need to be confirmed at least two weeks before the end of term.

Visitors to the boarding house

All external visitors to boarding houses must do so via communication with the Head of House. Visitors do not include casual staff working in the houses or tutors who have been employed by families to undertake academic tuition. All visitors must inform the Head of House, or the tutor on duty, at a minimum. The Head of House will have the opportunity to approve the visit to campus and make arrangements for all visitors to do this in a manner that observes the Geelong Grammar School Child Safety Code of Conduct. Visitors are not permitted to enter a student's room, but must stay in common spaces in the House.

09 Clothing and Uniform

Clothing

Casual clothes may be worn on weekends and in the evening within the boarding house. All clothing items should be named. It is not necessary to bring an extensive casual wardrobe to school — less is more. Three changes of tidy casual clothing and one change of smart casual clothing is sufficient. Clothes should be machine washable and able to be tumble-dried.

Uniform

The Geelong Grammar School uniform can only be purchased from the GGS uniform shop, located in the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing at Corio Campus, either in person or remotely if required.

Uniform requirements and the uniform shop opening hours are provided on the school website and in Hive.

To contact the uniform shop directly, please email: uniformshop@ggs.vic.edu.au or phone +61 3 5273 9329

A range of pre-loved uniform items is available for purchase in good condition, and we encourage families to recycle uniforms with us.

Uniforms should be worn correctly and neatly at all times. Girls' dresses and kilts should be of a length that finishes just above the knee. A sports uniform is only to be worn at designated times.

The black GGS fleece is not an official uniform item and should only be worn for casual wear. The black GGS raincoat should only be worn on rainy days and not as a substitute for a blazer.

Formal uniform, known as 'No. 1', is worn on special occasions (e.g. Anzac Day) and to chapel on Sundays. Students will be notified by their Head of House when required to dress in their

No. 15.

What to bring

In addition to school and sports uniform requirements, stationery, books and personal hygiene items, boarding students should bring the following:

- Casual clothing (see 'Clothing' section)
- Mesh laundry bag, available from uniform shop (4)
- Name tapes, available from uniform shop (24 dozen, 6 extra for House Assistant)
- Pyjamas (3)
- Underwear (10)
- Thongs for shower
- Doona, double size recommended (1)
- Doona covers, double size recommended (2)
- Woolen rug, school rug recommended (1)
- Towels, available from uniform shop (4)
- Weekend case/bag (1)
- Brush and comb, available from uniform shop
- Nail clippers, available from uniform shop
- Toothbrush and toothpaste, available from uniform shop
- Shampoo/conditioner, available from uniform shop
- Soap, available from uniform shop
- Deodorant, no aerosols permitted
- Wrist watch with vibrating alarm, or Small alarm clock

Optional items:

- Photographs, posters, appropriate pictures
- Personal iPods and MP3 players

Storage in Boarding House

Each student is provided with a hanging cupboard, chest of drawers and bedside table to store their personal belongings.

10 Boarding Info – A to Z

Bedding

A mattress protector, fitted sheet, pillow and pillowcase are supplied by the school. A pillowcase protector and a flat sheet are available on request. Students should bring their own doona (double size recommended) as well as two doona covers. Extra pillows and pillowcases are optional.

Bicycles and skateboards

Students may bring their bicycle or skateboard to school. A locked bike shed is available for storage in most houses and students are responsible for ensuring their equipment is safely locked up. Students are permitted to ride their bikes around designated areas of the campus. Heads of House may give permission for longer excursions in groups of three. Helmets are compulsory whenever bikes or skateboards are being ridden, and protective knee and elbow pads are required for skateboarding.

Books and supplies

Books are ordered through Campion Education and are delivered to the School at the commencement of the school year. More details for booklist ordering codes and dates are provided in Hive.

The Corio Campus book room, located in the Cook Quad, sells a range of pens and pencils, general stationery, books and novels to students and is open during termtime , Monday to Friday.

Colours (recognition system)

The colours system acknowledges contribution by students to the Corio Campus community. House colours are awarded on the basis of exceptional service to the house community and

inter-house competition, and school colours are awarded for commitment, achievement, and performance in the areas of academics, drama, music and sport. Students are awarded half-colour jumpers and full colours are acknowledged with an embroidered wreath and embellishments of the blazer pocket.

Computers

Senior School students are required to have a personal laptop computer. Access to a personal laptop computer allows the development of capabilities needed to learn, collaborate and communicate, and prepares students for future digital demands.

Parents may choose between purchasing a laptop computer through the School's provider or supply their own computer that meets the minimum specifications outlined by the School. Further information outlining the laptop programme can be found in Hive.

Electrical appliances

Students are permitted to bring hair dryers, hair straightening wands, shavers, electric toothbrush, desk lamp, clock radio and international power adaptor into the boarding house. These may be used at the discretion of the Head of House. Hair straightening wands must be unplugged after use and stored in a heat-proof pouch (available from the uniform shop). These items must be named

The following appliances are prohibited and must not be brought onto campus: cooking appliances (including kettles, coffee machines and toasters), electric blankets, air conditioners, heaters, refrigerators and televisions.

Food

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are enjoyed in the Dining Hall, apart from some occasions when breakfast or dinner is taken 'in house'. Supper is enjoyed following Prep each night in the house, and homemade pizzas and BBQ breakfasts are enjoyed on occasion during termtime. Shared cooking facilities are available on weekends for students to bake or prepare meals. Each house has several pantries where students are able to prepare morning tea, snacks and drinks.

Dietary needs

Students with dietary needs should contact the House Assistant. Kitchen staff will also be notified and special meals will be provided.

Snacks

Food for snacking may be brought into the house for after school and in the evening. Food should be safely packaged in plastic sealable containers or cans. Junk food is discouraged and food containing nuts and nut products are not permitted.

Takeaway food

Boarders are permitted to order takeaway food at their own expense on Saturday nights only.

Hair and make-up

Students are expected to keep their hair clean and well-groomed each day. All hair is to be of natural colour. Coloured nail polish, shellac, acrylic nails and extensions are not permitted. Make-up should not be worn with school uniform.

ID cards

Identification cards, which include a photograph and individual barcode are used to borrow books from the libraries, to purchase items from the book room or GGS Shop, for commuter bus travel, and to use photocopiers.

Insurance of personal belongings

Students' belongings such as computers, phones and bicycles are not covered by the School's insurance. If cover is needed, it must be arranged by parents. All personal electrical appliances should be labelled with the student's name and fully insured. The School takes no responsibility for articles of value that are left in bedrooms or studies. Each student is provided with a lockable cupboard to store their personal belongings.

Jewellery

The only earrings that are permitted to be worn are a single pair of studs or sleepers. Earrings are only to be worn in the ear lobe. Apart from a watch, no other jewellery may be worn.

Tattoos are not permitted.

Laundry

Laundry within each house is managed by the House Assistant and sent to an external laundry facility every week with a 48-hour turnaround. Items such as blazer, trousers, kilts and pullovers are dry-cleaned. Students are responsible for distributing their dirty laundry to the correct place in the boarding house and collecting clean laundry regularly.

Within each house, there are washing machines, clothes lines and a drying room available for students to wash small loads of casual clothes. Each student should bring a small amount of washing powder if they wish to use these facilities. Expensive items of clothing should not be brought to school as they are not suitable for industrial laundering and tumble drying.

Library

The Fisher Library has an extensive catalogue which is available to Senior School students. Books and audio material may be borrowed for two weeks and DVDs overnight. Other books and periodicals are available for reference in the library only. Borrowers with overdue items for longer than a week will be referred to their Head of House and further loans will not be permitted until overdue items are returned. The School subscribes to a number of online databases that provide high-quality authoritative reference sources for student work.

Mobile Phones

The use of mobile phones is accepted and can allow for important communication access for parents. In accepting the use of mobile phones, it is expected they will be used responsibly. Students are not permitted to make and receive calls and text messages in the following times:

- During assemblies and class time
- During Prep (7–9pm on weekdays)
- After 10pm

Please assist us with ensuring your child only uses their phone within these guidelines.

Year 10 students are required to hand in their mobile phone and computer prior to lights out.

Money and valuables

Students should use a debit card or cash card to access their money. It is not advisable for students to keep cash on their person or within their dorms, except in small amounts (eg $20). Larger sums of money, passports and other travel documents should be stored in the care of the Head of House.

Name tapes

Name tapes can be ordered from the uniform shop. Only sew-in name tapes are permitted and they must state your child's full name and house code as follows:

JANE SMITH, HE

House codes: Allen (AL), Clyde (CL), Cuthbertson (CU), Francis Brown (FB), Fraser (FR), Garnett (GA), The Hermitage (HE), Elisabeth Murdoch (EM), Manifold (M), Perry (P)

All items of clothing should be named. For trousers, kilts, shorts and underwear, the name tape should be sewn on the inside of the middle-back of the waistband. For shirts, jumpers, blazers and tops, the tape should be sewn inside the middle of the back of the neck. For socks, sew the tape vertically on the inside of the top of each sock. Shoes should be named with marking ink.

The school sewing room is able to name your child's clothing. Please arrange this through the uniform shop.

Prohibited items

Please do not allow your child to bring the following items to school: aerosol cans (eg deodorant, hair spray), candles and oil burners, humidifiers, chewing gum, incense sticks, soft drinks, electrical appliances (as previously listed), liquid shoeshine, lighters and laser beams. Items that are expensive or irreplaceable should remain at home.

Please refer to the Student Behaviour Rules available via Hive for our expectations and requirements regarding student behaviour, including prohibited substances and items, to ensure a safe and supportive learning and living environment for all in our community.

REACH

All students sign in and out of the boarding house via the REACH student management software. This allows our staff to safely monitor student locations both on and off campus and this software is also used to manage exeat and leave requests.

Toiletries

A consistent supply of shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and feminine hygiene products is required. These items may be purchased at the uniform shop, and other essential chemist items can be ordered through the House Assistant and charged to your account.

11 Health and wellbeing

At Corio Campus, we offer a comprehensive and interconnected network of care for our students so that their health and wellbeing needs are fully supported.

In order to ensure the best possible health care for each student, it is important that parents communicate to the Kennedy Health Centre and Head of House any health and wellbeing considerations for their child, in particular any ongoing health matters and/or medication that their child has been prescribed. The Kennedy Health Centre, House Assistant or Head of House should also be notified if any new medication has been prescribed or the student has suffered an illness during the school holidays.

Kennedy Health Centre

The Kennedy Health Centre is an on-campus clinic, open 24 hours during the school term. Students with minor ailments will be treated by staff in the house, and all other matters will be referred to the Kennedy Health Centre where qualified staff are always available throughout the day and night.

Boarding students have access to the GP clinic and physiotherapy service that are offered through the Centre. The Kennedy Health Centre has the capacity to accommodate nine students if a student requires overnight care or observation during the day.

Appointments can be made through the House Assistant/Head of House, or directly to Kennedy Health Centre via phone or email. Parents are encouraged to have private health insurance and ambulance cover in the State of Victoria in case a student requires hospital care for serious injury or illness. Students who have a student visa must have Overseas Student Health Cover.

Kennedy Health Centre:

T: +61 3 5273 9302 **E:** KennedyM@ggs.vic.edu.au

Counselling services

Student counselling support is available to students in the Kennedy Health Centre with our qualified team of psychologists and counsellors. This is a confidential service offered from Monday to Friday and available to all students and families to help identify and support educational, behavioural, emotional, psychological, social and developmental concerns. Our professional team has a detailed understanding of the complex needs of our learning community and can assist in supporting through transition and adjustment difficulties, stress and anxiety, sleep issues, family issues, friendships and relationships, Indigenous support, gender diversity, sexuality, self-confidence, low mood and other matters that can arise through adolescence. For ongoing counselling needs, it is the School's policy for families to acquire the services of external health professionals. This allows for continuity of health services during school holidays as well as when students have graduated from school and still require the services of the external health professionals.

Appointments with counsellors can be made through the Head of House by the student or parent/guardian, or through the Kennedy Health Centre via phone or email.

Student Counselling Services:

T: +61 3 5273 9302 **E:** KennedyM@ggs.vic.edu.au

Medicines

Students are not permitted to self-medicate. All prescription and non-prescription medicines that are brought to school must be handed in to the House Assistant or Head of House. This includes pain relief medication such as Panadol. Medicine is administered either by a member of house staff or the Kennedy Health Centre, with a record of dosage maintained.

Dental and orthodontist appointments

Regular medical and dental appointments should be restricted to holidays or after class so that interruption to schooling is kept to a minimum.

Sleep

Sleep allows students to gather the physical and mental 'recharge' needed to participate in a

busy school life. On weekends and exeats, students must be mindful of the need for sleep. Late nights establish a sleep debt which is difficult to overcome. The consequences of this seriously reduce a student's capacity to productively manage academic and co-curricular activities. There needs to be a general acceptance by students that having the right amount of sleep is important, and we encourage parents to discuss this with their children.

Sun safety

Exposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Students must ensure that they avoid unnecessary harmful exposure to the sun and wear appropriate protection when exposed to the sun, including:

- Shirt (long-sleeved if possible)

- Hat (wide-brimmed) or GGS cap for specific sports — compulsory for sport and PE lessons

- Sunglasses (close-fitting)

- Sunscreen

Note: hats, caps and sunscreen are available from the GGS Shop

Swim safety

All new students to GGS or previously untested swimmers are required to complete a water safety competency check to enable them to participate safely in water-based activities, camps and excursions. Swimming lessons can be arranged for those students who do not pass the test. Students with an RLSS Bronze Star or Swim and Survive Award may be exempt.

12 Senior School communication

We believe it is fundamentally important to work in partnership with parents to optimise student development and outcomes. We utilise a range of communication tools to connect with parents and students effectively.

Hive

The Hive is our main communication portal for parents, as well as the learning platform for all students from ELC to Year 12, across all campuses. Hive is a centralised point of reference for most school matters for parents, including accessing student reports, statement of fees, updating contact details, viewing the school calendar, student timetables, co-curricular information, and other important matters. Hive allows parents access to resources and information that relates to their child, as well as matters for the whole school community. It is designed specifically to be the main communication hub for parents, reducing the risk of emails being overlooked, and a centralised information repository for easy retrieval.

Parents are provided their own username and password and encouraged to visit the Hive regularly. Email digests are also sent daily at 6pm to notify parents of news, pastoral alerts or grades and feedback released during that day. Families with students across multiple campuses will be able to access student campus pages directly from the Hive dashboard.

Hive can be accessed at: https://hive.ggs.vic.edu.au

Assistance with login details or access issues should be directed to the GGS Service Desk at support@ggs.vic.edu.au

Hive app

The Hive app allows key features to be easily accessed from the app home page, including news, sports fixtures and results, notifications and calendar. Notifications can be formatted to suit the individual user.The Hive app is available free from the iTunes App Store for iPhone

and iPad users, and from Google Play App Store for Android phone users, and can be found by searching 'Geelong Grammar School'.

Calendar

The school calendar is available in Hive and via the Hive app. It is regularly updated. Printed school calendars are also distributed at the start of each year.

Class contact lists

Class contact lists are available via Hive, and parents can choose whether they wish for their details to be shared with other families. Please ensure your contact details are kept up to date via the Hive.

Fee Accounts

School fee account enquiries should be directed to the Accounts Department:
Telephone: +61 3 5273 9200
Email: AccountsSupport@ggs.vic.edu.au

Newsletter

The Corio Campus newsletter is distributed to parents three times per term.

Parent-student-teacher conversations

Parent-student-teacher conversations occur mid Term 2 and mid Term 3. The purpose of these conversations is to provide the opportunity to discuss learning progress, approaches to learning, and areas and strategies for improvement and development. Further details are provided by the Head of Learning and Teaching and Head of House and communicated through Hive.

Social media

Geelong Grammar School news for all campuses is regularly posted on the School's official

social media channels.
Instagram: @geelonggrammar
Twitter: @geelonggrammar
Facebook: @GeelongGrammarSchool

We encourage you to engage via our GGS social media channels. A simple like or share of a GGS social media post can help connect others to the exceptional opportunities our students enjoy at our School.

Some boarding houses have individual Facebook and Instagram pages which you can request to join through the Head of House, however, these are not administered by the School.

13 Community

Nurturing a strong sense of community is one of our biggest priorities at Geelong Grammar School. Throughout the year, we endeavour to provide a number of opportunities for our families to connect and experience the joy of being a part of a warm, inclusive community.

Athletics Day

All four school campuses participate in Athletics Day held at Corio in August each year. The day commences with an outdoor chapel service, followed by house events. Food is available for purchase and parents are invited to bring a picnic and stay for the day.

Family Day

Family Day is a celebration of the Corio community and a special day on the school calendar. Senior School families enjoy a relaxed lunch within their houses. The day culminates with the John Landy Duathlon, which finishes at the SPACE where all families are able to enjoy a delicious afternoon tea with jazz.

Friends of Senior School (parent association)

The Friends of Senior School (FoSS) is an integral part of our community. It exists to act as a central liaison point for Senior School parents, and to raise funds to support Senior School programs and students. The committee meets regularly during term time and encourages members from across Australia and internationally. Annual events organised by the Friends of Senior School include the FoSS Spring Luncheon, where all families, friends and alumni from all campuses are invited to come together in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. For further information about becoming involved in the FoSS, contact supportgroups@ggs.vic.edu.au

Hirschfeld-Mack Club

The Hirschfeld-Mack Club is a parent support group for the arts at Geelong Grammar School. News of arts events and achievements around the school is regularly posted on Instagram @hirschclubggs. For further information about becoming a member of the club, or to sign up for the club's newsletter, contact supportgroups@ggs.vic.edu.au

House dinner

House dinners take place in Term 3 each year in a venue in or around Geelong and are a welcomed opportunity for parents to connect with other parents of the same house. Details for the event are communicated by the Head of House through Hive.

Sport support groups

A number of parent groups play an active role in supporting sport at GGS. For further information, contact supportgroups@ggs.vic.edu.au

Brazier Club (Sailing)

Doc Dunn Club (Soccer)

Frank Sedgman Club (Tennis)

Geelong Grammar Equestrian

Geelong Grammar Hockey

Geelong Grammar Netball

Geelong Grammar Polo Club

Geelong Grammar Snowsports

Landy Club (Athletics)

Lewis Club (Rugby)

Tunbridge Club (Cricket)

Newman Club (Football)

WH Pincott Club (Rowing)

Valedictory dinners

Year 12 students, parents and staff are invited to attend a valedictory dinner at a location in or around Geelong in October each year.

Past Parents Network

The Past Parents' Network makes it possible to keep friendships fresh and alive and retain the great depth of wisdom and experience that resides among the parent group. The Network provides a valuable vehicle to maintain links, share news, follow our children's lives, occasionally meet face to face and keep in touch with the School Community. Further information for joining may be found on the GGS website.

14 Policies

All our students have responsibilities and duties – to their houses, to the School, to themselves and to each other.

Up to date school policies and procedures can be found on HIVE, and include:

- Student Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct
- Duty of Care Policy
- Supervision in Boarding Policy
- Inclusivity Policy
- Student Behaviour Rules
- Community Code of Conduct
- Student Anti-Bullying Policy
- Student Cyber Safety Policy and Guidelines
- Student Drugs and Alcohol Policy
- Student Search and Confiscation Policy
- Suspensions and Expulsions Procedure
- Student Leave and Exeat Procedure
- Overseas Student Policies and Procedures
- Student Complaints Handling Policy and Guide
- School Health Centres Policy
- Anaphylaxis Management Policy
- Concussion Policy
- Eating Disorder Policy
- Self-Harm Policy
- GGS Bursary Guidance Statement
- Uniform Regulations

Overseas Students

- The School has specific policies and procedures which govern and support our overseas students enrolled at the School pursuant to a student visa (subclass 500). Importantly, overseas students need to be aware of the Course Progress, Attendance and Progression

Policy, and Complaints and Appeals Policy. These can be found on the Overseas Student Policies & Procedures page on Hive.

The School's Overseas Student Manager can answer any queries regarding current overseas students:

Laura Shandley | Overseas Student Manager

Email: lshandley@ggs.vic.edu.au

Phone: +61 3 5273 9138 or +61499 331 746