



Teamwork • Respect • Honesty • Care

Goornong Primary School

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Monday 22nd November, 2021

Dear Parents,

RE: VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS IN VICTORIAN SCHOOLS

As you may be aware, the Victorian Government has announced Mandatory Vaccination Directions, as issued by the Chief Health Officer, which apply to Victorian schools. This mandate applies to all school staff, volunteers and visitors working on school sites. The Education Department has also provided schools with guidance and clarification regarding vaccination requirements for parents, carers and other adults who visit school sites.

The purpose of this letter is to outline these requirements for our school community.

Parents and other adults visiting the school

Parents, carers and other adult visitors who enter school buildings must have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021, or have a valid medical exemption. Parents, carers and other adult visitors who enter school buildings must check-in using the QR code and schools are required to sight the vaccination information of the visitor.

There are some limited exceptions where parents and carers are able to attend inside the school buildings if unvaccinated and without a valid medical exemption. These include:

- When attending to administer medical treatment to their own child when the treatment cannot be administered by the school.
- When attending to collect their child who is unwell and who cannot leave the school building unaccompanied by their parent/carer.
- When attending for a momentary period that does not involve any sustained contact with staff or students (for example, to collect a completed art project or similar).

Parents, carers and other adult visitors attending an outdoor event or gathering held at schools, such as a fete or school production, are also required to be fully vaccinated. In these instances, parents, carers and adult visitors must check in using the QR code and schools are required to sight vaccination information.

Parents and carers attending school sites for drop off and pick up who do not enter school buildings do not need to comply with vaccination requirements.

Volunteers

Under the directions issued by the Victorian Chief Health Officer, all volunteers attending schools to perform work (both indoors and outdoors) are required to have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021, or have a valid medical exemption.

Parents volunteering with activities such as morning reading, on excursions or with on-site fundraising activities would fall into this category. Our school is required to collect, record and hold vaccination information from relevant volunteers to ensure they meet these requirements. Whilst we are currently limiting the number of volunteers at our school, we ask parents to take note of this requirement for the time when we are again seeking volunteers on-site.

We also remind all parents and visitors of the need to continue to adhere to physical distancing, density limits, face mask and QR code check-in requirements; and to practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene when visiting our school.

I understand that these measures may be the cause of frustration for some in our school community. I ask for people's understanding that, as a school staff, we have a responsibility to implement the current Education Department guidelines and health directives at our school; and as such, 'in good faith', this is what we will continue to do.

I thank our school community for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Cox". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'C'.

Jason Cox

Principal