



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS WEBINAR QUESTIONS

QUEENSLAND HEALTH RESPONSES & BGS RESPONSES

Testing and Testing Sites

Q1. Can we use any site? Do we need a referral?

Related questions:

- *We live in the southside and notice several QML sites mentioned that they require a referral. Is this correct?*
- *If you go to another testing site other than BGS or RNA, can you use the pathology forms provided?*
- *Will other QML or Sullivan Nicolaides testing clinics accept the request forms we have specific to BGS?*

All pathology providers are able to provide testing without a referral at this time. This is a short-term arrangement put in place to support the management of the Delta outbreak. Unfortunately, some websites can be inaccurate due to the lag time that it takes for them to be updated. Drive through sites are recommended as this option allows you to wait in the comfort of your own car and ensures social distancing. All testing sites are established to ensure social distancing can be undertaken while waiting and being tested. Please use the most convenient and suitable test centre for you.

Q2. With people still testing positive on Day 12, is the School walk in testing still ok given a chance of some positive cases?

While drive through sites for close contacts are recommended, all testing sites are established to ensure social distancing can be undertaken while waiting and being tested. Please use the most convenient and suitable test centre for you.

Q3. What facilities are available for testing young children? The invasiveness of the testing has caused issues with the young children being terrified of being tested again.

Care has been taken to ensure all testing sites can support the testing of children. If you identify that your child would benefit from additional support and an alternate approach, please discuss with your testing site to see how they can accommodate your child.

Testing of secondary contacts.

Q4. Do secondary contacts need to get an exit COVID test (Day 12) or can they rely on close contacts testing negative?

Related questions:

- *Do all family member or just children (primary/close contacts) need to get tested?*
- *Do secondary contacts (household member of a primary/close contact) need to have an exit test with a negative result before leaving quarantine?*
- *Should secondary contacts do the exit testing as well if not symptomatic?*
- *Health documents say secondary contacts don't need testing if the primary contact test result is negative (unless you are a healthcare worker), although the BGGGS email says all contacts need to get tested. Could you clarify please?*
- *Do only close contacts need a Day 12 test, or do the secondary contacts too?*
- *Do healthcare workers need two exit tests before returning to work?*

Testing of secondary contacts is not required unless anyone in the household has symptoms of COVID-19. Testing is recommended for the whole household if the primary contact missed their entry test. However, sometimes it helps that children have a role model. You may like to get tested to demonstrate and reassure your child that testing is safe, albeit a little uncomfortable.

Quarantine testing schedules – Day 12 testing and completion of quarantine

Q5. Can you exit quarantine once you receive a negative test result on Day 12?

No.

Q6. Can I get tested on a day other than Day 12?

Related questions:

- *What happens if someone gets tested on Day 10 or Day 11 and not Day 12. Does that affect being able to go back to school?*
- *What if I have had a test on Day 11 and it is negative?*
- *Does the 'Day 12' date go off your first test or since it was announced by the School?*

A person who is informed that they are a close contact **must quarantine until the end of the 14th day after the day on which the person last had close contact** (reference is the [Management of Close Contacts Direction](#)). This direction also states that a person will be quarantined for a further period of 14 days from the end of the quarantine period if the person is not tested for COVID-19 when request to do so by an emergency officer (public health)

In Queensland, the **requirement is to be tested at Day 12 (or later), prior to exit from quarantine**. This balances the risk of preventing the release of potentially infectious people into the community (people who are asymptomatic or has under-reported symptoms)

Day 12 is 12 calendar days AFTER your exposure. The date of your exposure is Day 0. For example, if your exposure was on Friday 30 July, Day 12 will be Wednesday 11 August. Day 10 or Day 11 tests do not meet the minimum requirement for exit from quarantine.

Q7. If a family didn't have a test at the start of quarantine, are they ok to just have the exit test to exit quarantine?

Testing on entry into quarantine is highly recommended. This allows for maximum early identification of cases. If you missed your entry test, it is acceptable to just do your exit (Day 12) test at this time. Testing is recommended for the whole household if the primary contact missed their entry test.

Q8. What happens if people in the School community or one of their household members refuse to take a test on Day 12, 13, 14 or ever? How will Queensland Health deal with that?

The [Management of Close Contacts Direction](#) states that a person will be quarantined for a further period of 14 days from the end of the quarantine period if the person is not tested for COVID-19 when requested to do so by an emergency officer (public health). In Queensland, the **requirement is testing at Day 12 (or later), prior to exit from quarantine**. Those people who are not tested will be quarantined for a further 14 days.

Q9. Often COVID tests have returned positive results at or after Day 14. Is there any reason why we are testing at Day 12?

Related questions:

- *Are there high chances that someone may have tested negative on their exit test but may then be positive once back at school?*

Current evidence is that although possible, it is rare for people to have an incubation period greater than 14 days. Day 12 represents a balance between maximising covering the vast majority of incubation periods and accommodating known test turnaround times. For this reason, we ask that in the unlikely event you do develop symptoms after your day test, please attend for a further test and isolate until you receive a negative result.

Test Result and Turnaround Time Questions

Q10. Some clinics took a week to provide results, does the pop-up clinic at RNA confirm that results will be provided before Monday?

Related questions:

- *What are the current turnaround times for COVID tests? Previously it was up to 72 hours. Are the facilities staffed up to deliver faster results to families?*
- *What is the expected test result turnaround time? Some of our tests last week took up to 80 hours to get back.*

Queensland Health is monitoring and supporting all laboratories to maintain good turnaround times. Specifically, 24 to 36 hours is the key target. Some testing services have laboratories in New South Wales, meaning that turnaround times can be affected by flight availability (taking swabs to the laboratories).

If you have not got your result within 36 hours of testing, please contact your testing laboratory.

Contact numbers for key laboratories are:

- **Mater Pathology** – 07 3163 8500 or pathology.enquiries@mater.org.au
- **QML** – 07 3121 4444 or 1800 677491
- **Sullivan & Nicolaidis Pathology** – 0733778756 or patientservices@snp.com.au

- **MedLab** – 1300 633522 or 07 37084200
- **4Cyte Pathology** – 134298
- **Pathology Queensland** (public Queensland Health facilities) – 1800 472847

Q11. How will Queensland Health ensure all the involved community return a negative result before returning to school?

Queensland Health is monitoring all COVID-19 test results and is able to reconcile lists of primary close contacts against test results. Where it is identified that a primary close contact is approaching the end of quarantine and has not recorded a negative result, a reminder to get tested will be provided. Should you get a reminder, but you have had a test, or you have been informed you don't need a test, please contact Queensland Health to discuss so that our records can be amended.

Test results notification and notification to School

Q12. Would it help for students/parents to forward student results to the School or Queensland Health when we get them after Day 12 testing?

There is no need to notify the school of your test results. Please keep a record of your results for future record.

Queensland Health is monitoring all COVID-19 test results and is able to reconcile lists of primary close contacts against test results. Where it is identified that a primary close contact is approaching end of quarantine and has not recorded a negative result – a reminder to get tested will be provided. Should you get a reminder, but you have had a test, or you have been informed you don't need a test, please contact Queensland Health to discuss so that our records can be amended.

Q13. Our household got our tests together, but we only received the initial results for two people. There was an error with the phone number for the third person and it was not picked up.

At times, human error may result in transcription errors on the form or at the testing centre. Please contact the laboratory that supported your testing to ask for the result. They can often provide that over the phone and send a confirming text or email for your records.

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Quarantine and Quarantine End

Q14. For those of us required to quarantine until Saturday (due to exposure at Churchie on Saturday 31 July), what time on Saturday 14 August does our quarantine end?

Secondly, should we do our test on Thursday as this is Day 12 for us?

Your quarantine period ends at 10.00am on 14 August. Your Day 12 test is due on Thursday 12 August.

Q15. Can we leave quarantine before the 14-day period is complete?

Related questions:

- *If we have two negative tests (Day 1 and then on Day 12) and no symptoms, why is the directive to stay in isolation until Friday?*
- *Do we have to wait until midnight Friday if we have had 2 negative COVID tests?*
- *Can we exit as soon as we get our negative Day 12 test result?*
- *As a secondary contact, do I need to continue isolating after I have received a negative exit COVID test result?*

The requirement for close contacts, and their secondary contacts, is a full 14 days of quarantine. You cannot be considered as having completed your quarantine period until:

- you have had a Day 12 test (this can be on Day 12 or later) and that test has been reported as negative;
- you have completed 14 days of quarantine; and
- you do not have any symptoms of COVID-19 since your Day 12 test.

Q16. Aren't they required legally to provide a directive to an individual for quarantine?

Any form of verbal or written direction to quarantine is a valid direction. The volume of close and secondary contacts associated with this outbreak has required innovative methods of providing direction to quarantine.

Q17. The Premier announced on 11 August that I am unable to leave quarantine without formal written approval from Queensland Health. How will this be achieved?

Queensland Health has worked to develop a portal for people in quarantine to register their completion of quarantine declaration. This will require details of all persons in quarantine – both primary close contacts and secondary contacts, declaration that each person does not have symptoms of COVID-19, and details of exit testing of close contacts.

This information will be used to inform the creation of a unique release from quarantine document for each person who has completed quarantine. The details of the portal will be released for you to complete during Day 13 of your quarantine.

Q18. This is the first time I have seen the use of secondary contacts. Is this a sign of things to come?

Related questions:

- *When school reopens next week, and if there is a case of COVID positive at School, do parents need to quarantine for two weeks again? This quarantine really affects my work at the moment as a doctor.*

- *In the future, if a single positive case comes up in the school again, does the whole family have to go into quarantine like what happened now?*
- *If another case arises at the School in the near future, we cannot all be expected to quarantine again. How can Queensland Health manage/change their process to avoid 1,500 families being quarantined because one person has been on campus?*
- *Will secondary contact quarantine be a consistent approach going forward, whether due to a school or non-school hotspot?*

The emergence of the Delta variant of COVID-19 has meant that Queensland has adopted the identification of secondary contacts. This is a response to the highly infectious nature of this variant. This approach is likely to be maintained for as long as the predominant variant is the Delta variant.

Q19. How does Metro North come up with a number of 10,000+ people in quarantine? The school does not know how many people are in each household and no specific contact has been made with our household despite registering 10 days ago. How do they know there are four of us and not 14?

We have been able to identify that there is at least 13,000 people in quarantine. We acknowledge that we may not be aware of all of the secondary contacts for the reasons detailed above.

Q20. How has 11.59pm Friday been determined as the end of quarantine for families?

A person who is informed that they are a close contact **must quarantine until the end of the 14th day after the day on which the person last had close contact** (see the [Management of Close Contacts Direction](#)).

The date of your exposure is Day 0. For example, if your exposure was on Friday 30 July, you are required to quarantine until the end of Friday 13 August.

Vaccination

Eligibility for school aged children (12 years and older)

Q21. Will Year 12 students be eligible for vaccines soon?

Related questions:

- *Will Years 11 and 12 students get priority access to vaccinations any time soon?*
- *When will healthy children who are not currently eligible have access to vaccine?*

COVID-19 vaccine eligibility for children is aligned to the ATAGI advice and includes.

- 12-15 year old children with [specified underlying medical conditions](#);
- 12–15-year-old children who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander or live in a remote community; or
- 12–15-year-old children who are household contacts of quarantine workers, border workers and COVID-19 hospital ward workers.

At this time, other cohorts for children are being assessed for prioritisation. Some key groups include boarding school children (particularly those that will return to vulnerable communities during school holidays)

How to book an appointment

Q22. Would the student just register for vaccination via the Queensland Health website? How long would it take to be able to book appointment?

Related questions:

- *The website just keeps REDIRECTING when trying to book on behalf of a person (e.g. child). I've registered as I'm already fully vaccinated. Is there an issue with the site?*

First check with your usual GP to see if they are offering COVID-19 vaccinations. You can find other GP clinics offering vaccines close to you through websites such as Healthengine or Hotdoc. When seeking a booking at a Queensland Health vaccination clinic, you first need to [register your interest in the name of the person being vaccinated](#).

COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines

Q23. My son was due for a school vaccination (meningococcal) this term. Will this affect his suitability for a COVID vaccination, or will there be any adverse effects if he has them too close together?

It is advised that COVID-19 vaccination should separate from other vaccines by 7 days.

Q24. My 16-year-old daughter volunteers at an aged care facility. Is she eligible to receive the vaccination as part of the priority group now?

Healthcare workers and support staff in all vulnerable settings, including the community/aged care/disability and education, are Phase 1b priority group for COVID-19 vaccines and eligible for vaccination now.

This includes individuals who may be in contact with the general public during the conduct of their work who work in the community, general practice, community pharmacy, a centre-based care facility, a school or other clinical setting or who provide in-home care.

This includes, but is not limited to, clinical staff; health professional students on clinical placement; clinical assistants; reception and administrative staff; cleaners; locum staff; interpreters and volunteers.

Q25. If a staff member has already had the first vaccine, can they now be prioritised for the second vaccine under the 1B list?

Anyone who has received their first vaccine is eligible for a second vaccine at the scheduled time.

Q26. I had to change my vaccination appointment because it is on Friday (during our quarantine period). I found that there were no available appointments using the online booking system. How should we go about rescheduling appointments?

All rescheduling of appointments at public clinics can be done by calling 134 COVID. To reschedule your appointment at a private clinic, please call your provider directly.

School Vaccination Questions

Q27. Will BGS and BGGs organise/co-ordinate vaccinations at school later this year? What about mass vaccinating Year 12 and Year 11 at school?

The vaccine roll out continues to move at pace. I expect that school-based vaccination programs will become a feature of COVID-19 vaccination as the broader school student community becomes eligible for vaccination.

School Vaccination Program questions

Q28. Will BGS/BGGs be requesting vaccines to be distributed to students through the school once they are available?

Related questions:

- *Is Queensland Health considering a School immunisation Program for COVID as is already done for HPV?*
- *Is it possible that the school organizes for the COVID vaccine in group?*

Ultimately, COVID-19 vaccination of 12 to 15-year-olds will be able to be rolled into the school vaccination program. The timeframe for this is not yet able to be determined and will be dependent on the overall achievement of the initial national vaccination program.

Proof of quarantine to support application for support payments

Q30. Because I wasn't able to work and my clinic was closed, my reception staff wasn't able to be paid because the surgery was closed, how can I help my staff to claim Centrelink payment and I need the proof for Centrelink, so my staff gets some money. There are a lot of flow on effects when secondary contacts aren't able to work.

Can Queensland Health please inform Centrelink who are managing various pandemic payments for individuals and small businesses that you are using mass communication strategy for BGS and BGGs quarantine directive. They are requesting individual proof for payment.

Queensland Health is working through the National Incident Room with the Federal Government Agencies to clarify the documentation required for people to access relevant COVID-19 relief payments. Initial indication is that relevant notifications including SMS, letters, website notifications and quarantine release documentation will be sufficient evidence. Please keep copies of relevant documentation to support your application.

SCHOOL-RELATED QUESTIONS

Q31. How are the schools going to ensure that everyone has completed the exit test and received a negative result before school commences on Monday?

Metro North Public Health will advise the School if anyone from the contact lists provided fails to complete their 12th day/exit test. It is a legal requirement to follow the directions provided by the Public Health Unit.

Q32. Will students need evidence of Day 12 negative COVID test? If so, what is the document/other evidence that may be necessary?

No, the School will be notified by Queensland Health if any student or staff member returns a positive test.

Q33. In terms of personal protective behaviours, will students be taught how to wear masks safely?

Yes, we will provide guidance on mask wearing, utilising educational materials produced by Queensland Health and the WHO.

Q34. Are cloth masks ok or will you require surgical masks?

The best face mask is a single-use surgical mask – you can purchase these at pharmacies. If you are unable to get a surgical mask, any paper or cloth masks are fine to use. The most effective cloth masks are made up of at least three layers.

Q35. Will clean masks be available at school each day?

Staff and students are expected to provide their own masks, spare masks will be available under specific conditions. For example, lost or damaged masks.

Q36. Will the School have a reserve supply of masks for lost and forgotten masks like state schools?

Yes, the School will provide a mask for lost, damaged or forgotten masks.

Q37. How many students need to test positive next week before you close BGGs/BGS?

Any school closure related to COVID-19 will be at the sole discretion of Queensland Health and their professional assessment of the risk.

Q38. Are the kids (with two negative results) going back to school next Monday? Would both schools consider have one more week of remote just in case?

BGS is returning to school on Monday. The implementation of our COVID safe practices will provide a safe environment for staff and students on their return.

Q39. What new processes will be implemented within the School environment to minimise exposure?

As requested by the Queensland Health, all students and staff must wear masks. The campus will be limited to staff and students. Sanitising stations around the School and in each classroom will allow students to wash hands at the start and end of each class and break. Teachers will meet classes from collection points to minimise students gathering in small spaces. Opportunities for classes to occur in open spaces and larger classrooms are available. Lunch times will be staggered and both doors of the Tuckshop will be used to speed entry and exit.

Q40. What will happen with Tuckshop lines?

Middle School and Senior School lunch times will be staggered to minimise the time students spend in the Tuckshop lines. Both doors will be used which will speed up the purchasing process and minimise the number of boys in the queues.

Q41. When do you think it will be possible for activities like camps to proceed?

The plan is to continue the Year 9 Outdoor Education camps from the start of Week 7 (Monday 23 August). A plan has been developed that will allow the Year 9 camps to occur as well as the Year 10 camps. Confirmation of the Term 3 program will occur shortly.

Q42. Can Learner drivers drive into pick up zone and parent change over to drive?

Yes, this is fine. Parents need to remain in the drop off/pick zone.

Q43. What's happening with the School Formals?

The plan is for Formal to go ahead. Restrictions at the end of Term 3 will determine the style of the event.

Q44. Quick question regarding the Planning Framework referred to in today's BGS communication – we are using the Scenario 5 column to inform our planning for return to school not Scenario 2? And is there an end-date to that Scenario?

There is not an end date provided for Scenario 5. As has been the case in the past, Queensland Health will alter restrictions, and this dictates the timing for variations.

Q45. Will temperature check on students happen as they enter the School?

Students will not be temperature checked as they enter the School. If boys are unwell, we ask parents to keep them at home. If a student feels sick or shows symptoms, he will be checked by BGS Health Centre staff, and a decision will be made as to whether he needs to be collected by his parents.

Q46. Has any thought been given to school pickup zones for both boys and girls schools? Kids all sitting around together waiting for their parents.

The BGS pick up zone will be divided into separate areas for designated year groups to

limit contact between the various year groups. Unfortunately, students from BGGS will not be permitted in the BGS drop off and pick up zone under current directives from Queensland Health.

Q47. How has the cleaning services at the schools intensified? In what way?

The same intensified cleaning regime that operated at BGS following the Term 2 2020 lockdown will be implemented. Significant elements include more regular cleaning and sanitation of classrooms and playground equipment, plus sanitary fogging of student social spaces using during the morning tea and lunch breaks.

Q48. Are we going to be notified prior to the children going back on Monday whether all mandatory testing has been complied with by all members of the community who are allowed on campus?

Queensland Health is responsible for matching Day 12 quarantine-exit COVID tests with data that the School provided to them in relation to all close contacts on site during the exposure period. Queensland Health will manage any individuals who have not satisfied the quarantine requirements. Privacy restrictions limit the School's ability to verify quarantine compliance of individuals. The School has repeatedly communicated the quarantine regulations to BGS staff, students, parents, and volunteers and has arranged designated testing clinics to facilitate the process.

Q49. Will there be a NO result NO return to school policy?

The School will prohibit any individual from returning to campus when instructed by Queensland Health of a specific breach of quarantine requirements. BGS is not authorised to request personal COVID test results as a condition of entry.

Q50. Are there any changes being made to school processes that will mitigate risk of future whole school quarantine scenarios? For example, Middle School v Senior School contacts?

The School has developed and implemented a detailed protocol to limit student contact, particularly between different year groups (including separation of social spaces, sub-division of the pick-up zone, staggered morning tea and lunch breaks, revised classroom line up processes, restriction around student lockers, directional signage to minimise contact etc.). A comprehensive COVID safe hygiene plan has also been implemented involving a blend of heightened sanitation, mask wearing education and regulations, and provision of spare masks, sanitary fogging of social spaces, cleaning of musical instruments etc. We have also suspended all inter-school cocurricular activities and all contact sports.

Q51. Many students have been noted to be symptomatic but still attending school. Will there be better policing of this by school authorities? And asking to see a negative test prior to them returning?

Any student exhibiting any flu-like symptoms will be sent home immediately.

Q52. The gentlemen who kindly man the pick-up zone will need training on how to move the cars from all the new zones. i.e., first in/first out after two-minute wait. They seem to focus on the ones mainly used during normal times.

Traffic controllers will be more vigilant to move on delayed vehicles, particularly during the operation of the subdivided pick-up zones for separate year groups.

Q53. How are the kids that have tested positive? Are they just at home?

Pleasingly, some of the boys have fully recovered. A few are asymptomatic, whereas others still have slight symptoms including coughs and headaches. Yes, the boys are being cared for in virtual wards at home.

Q54. How will the affected children and their families be supported?

Families have been contacted regularly by the Headmaster, Head of Middle School and Head of Year. Arrangements have been made for the boys to continue learning from home. Support will continue to be provided on a case-by-case basis, pursuant to each family's needs.

Q55. Will BGS still provide after school supervision for Years 5 and 6. The space can be very cramped if numbers are high.

BGS Supervision will continue to operate. If the Library reaches capacity, BGS Supervision will relocate to an outdoor area, where the boys will continue to be supervised by the duty teacher. Sign in and out procedures remain the same.

Q56. Just wondering what additional support will be provided to BGS 7E given the boys have had a lot to deal with and their ongoing challenges?

The Head of Year 7 will work closely with Year 7 staff to ensure the ongoing support and monitoring of 7E. Students may also access our School Counsellors should they wish to speak to a counsellor about their concerns or challenges.

Q57. What remote learning arrangements will be made for students who are unable to return to school after this week because of quarantine requirements?

Adjustments will be made to learning and assessment to enable students to continue to progress in their learning. Students will be able to attend virtual classes through Teams meetings. They will continue to have access to curriculum materials via OneNote and Teams.

Q58. What measures are in place if boys at BGS from vulnerable families do not return on Monday? Do they have access to online classes?

Boys will be able to attend lessons via Teams meetings.

Boys who are vulnerable will access their curriculum through Microsoft Teams, OneNote, and Canvas in both synchronous (real time attendance in classes) and asynchronous (working independently with teacher guidance) modes. Students should liaise directly with subject teachers to coordinate their learning program during their

absence. If parents have questions or concerns, they should contact their son's Head of Year.

Q59. What remote learning arrangements will be made for students who are unable to return to school after this week because of quarantine requirements?

Students not able to return to school will continue to be supported through home-based learning. Parents should register absences through the normal absentee process and also contact the relevant Head of Year who will advise subject teachers the names of those unable to return. Teachers will contact students through Microsoft Teams to continue learning online. Depending on the unit of study and the culminating assessment, students may be encouraged to attend classes remotely and/or work independently with the expectation they submit set tasks by due dates.

Q60. What will happen with assessment – particularly for those in Years 10 to 12? How will we ensure that when the students are getting back to school, they have sufficient time to get back on track before their exams?

The priority in all classes for the two weeks has been for students to stay on track and to continue to make progress in their learning. The Director of Assessment and Reporting has been working with Heads of Department to identify subjects and year levels where assessment dates need to be moved and/or assessment items modified in order to reasonably adjust for the change in learning environment in the last two weeks. The assessment schedule on *MyGrammar* will be updated to reflect this. Students should remember that assessment is an opportunity to show what they know and a chance to gather feedback for improvement. The School has policies in place to enable students impacted by circumstances to complete their assessment.

Q61. Will online learning continue if we are not wanting to come back to school yet for Year 12s?

Students whose circumstances require them to continue with home-based learning will be able to maintain contact with their classes and remain on track with their learning. The digital platforms that every student can access – Canvas, Teams and OneNote – will contain all of the necessary resources and materials from lessons required for this. Students are encouraged to connect daily via Teams and to use their consolidation time well to monitor their own progress and check-in with their teachers for clarification as needed.

Q62. Can you please outline the implications of this two-week online learning environment and the moderate disruption to learning and assessment timetabling for Year 12 students?

The QCAA recognises the impact on students and has extended the dates for the submission of assessment as the first accommodation for students. The Deputy Headmaster Teaching and Learning has been in regular contact with the QCAA and next week will provide a detailed update to Year 12 students and parents about the measures in place to ensure there is no disadvantage to BGS students.

Q63. Would the School consider making up the two days the students lost during the quarantine?

No, there is no need to do this. Teachers will accelerate curriculum delivery, where required, to make sure students return to well-established routines and classroom experiences and maintain steady progress with their learning.

Q64. How do I help my son not get stressed about not understanding topics as well as he might when he's in the classroom? He is struggling a bit to understand new concepts when it's all online and not face to face.

Assure your son that checking for understanding is a core practice teachers have employed throughout the period of home-based learning. Given the disruptive nature of our recent experience teachers will again gauge students' understanding of the core concepts and key knowledge taught over the past two weeks, when they return to the classroom. If necessary, they will revisit content that needs to be consolidated. Encourage your son to proactively contact his teacher/s to let them know which content/concepts he is struggling with. This supports his development as a student who takes ownership of learning. Also encourage him to optimise his use of CP time to connect with peers and seek their support in understanding core ideas/skills. Also refer to the advice of the Deputy Headmaster Teaching and Learning that adjustments will be made to assessment where necessary. If your son's stress does not decrease in the coming weeks, please contact his Head of Year to discuss the matter.

Q65. Are Drama students expected to wear masks during performance work rehearsals and assessment?

At this stage, yes. This is a Queensland Health requirement. Drama staff are currently working to adapt rehearsals to accommodate this.

Q66. Do students have to wear masks for physical HPE?

At this stage, yes. This is a Queensland Health requirement. There may be some conditions where masks may be removed (e.g., swimming); however, at most other times, masks must be worn.

Q67. Will choir and wind instruments rehearsals be cancelled?

All ensemble rehearsals have been suspended with conductors maintaining engagement and connection via OneNote, Teams, and email. Private tuition will continue in a modified form, ensuring COVID safe practices are followed. During individual woodwind, brass, and vocal lessons, when students are the sole occupant of a studio and online with their teacher (via Zoom), they may remove their masks to play their instrument or sing. Masks must be placed back on before leaving the lesson and rooms will be cleaned between lessons.

Q68. When will the BGS Swim Club be re-opening? And will off campus members be allowed to attend the school training facility?

As a recent COVID contact site, the BGS campus is subject to additional restrictions, beyond those experienced following previous lockdowns. From Monday 16 August until further notice, the BGS Spring Hill campus and all other BGS facilities are only to be

accessed by BGS students and staff. No parents, visitors or non-BGS student club members are permitted on campus. This will have a significant impact on the many members of BGS Swimming and Gymnastics clubs who will be unable to train at the ISC, at this time. The Clubs will write to members explaining the arrangements which are being put in place, including provisions for some offsite, COVID safe training.

Q69. I know that BBC have asked all boarding student families to nominate a family that their son can go to if a lockdown or quarantine happens so that students don't need to travel home or stay in boarding.

We already have a similar system in place and all our boarders have nominated hosts that they can go to in the event of having flu like symptoms, or indeed a short notice closure, and this agreement is in Synergetic. Many of our boarders followed that approach and as a result have placed their hosts in a two-week quarantine! The BBC approach is in contrast to Churchie and St Peter's where they have stayed open and looked to accommodate all boarders. Moving forward we must be mindful of our responsibilities to, and the mental wellbeing of our students if they are compelled to depart boarding, and in particular of our international students who may have a commercial guardian arrangement in place.

Q70. Are there implications for changed boarding practices next week?

The majority of changed practices in boarding will be directed by changes to the school routine and revolve around mealtimes and the use of the Dining Hall. In Griffith and Harlin House, boarders will only be expected to use a mask in the Common Rooms as the residences will no longer be 'sealed' family units. Details of the operation of boarding has been sent to all boarder families.