



*Respect • Equality • Pride • Integrity • Resilience*

## Principal's Update – 29 May 2020

### Cyber Security Attack – Outcome of the Independent Investigation Conducted

In late February Golden Grove High School was the victim of a cyber-security incident. The attack encrypted our IT network rendering many of our IT services inaccessible for a number of weeks. The impact was significant and we thank our staff, students and families for their patience and understanding as we have worked through an extensive process to fully restore our IT services. We are very thankful for the tremendous support provided by a number of Department for Education IT staff and the team at Nuago who have been our partners in the re-building project.

All three campus Principals were concerned about the possibility of personal data being exfiltrated as a result of the cyber-security attack. We engaged the services of an independent company (SecureWare) to perform an investigation to determine whether any data had been accessed by the attackers. We recently received the findings of their investigation. In the report it states that whilst it was possible for data to have been accessed, their forensic scrutiny of the data logs provided by the three schools indicates no evidence that data extraction occurred. Indeed, it is very unlikely as the motivation for the attack was financial. The school takes the privacy of all staff, students and families extremely seriously. Based on the investigative findings I am confident no confidential data was lost.

Now that all work in Golden Grove High School has been completed our attention has moved to working with the other campus schools, the Department for Education and Nuago to design and implement a solution to return full ICT services to Shared Facilities. We understand the impact this attack has had on teaching and learning for classes taught in Shared Facilities. We anticipate the remediation work will be completed by the end of this term. Again we thank everyone for their patience during this difficult and challenging time.

If you wish to discuss this incident further, please make contact with me via the school's email address outlining your concerns or questions.

### COVID-19 Update

We have transitioned back to normal routines since the decision was made to return to face-to-face lessons from the beginning of the second week this term. All of our vulnerable teachers have now returned from leave and the additional cleaning of door knobs, light switches, handrails and shared use furniture will continue for the foreseeable future. Staff are continuing to remind students of the need to maintain good hand hygiene and remaining at home if they are feeling unwell with cold or flu-like symptoms. We thank our families for your ongoing support for ensuring the school remains COVID free. With the continued relaxation of restrictions within South Australia, schools are now able to resume camps and excursions for those subjects having an essential SACE assessment requirement that is met through participation in the camp/excursion (ie Outdoor Education). We also expect to be able to resume tours of the school's facilities for groups of 20 later this term. Please keep an eye on the school website for the dates and times of upcoming tours. In the meantime, you can engage in a virtual tour of the school facilities by clicking on the 360° [school tour button](#) on the home page of our website.

### School Visitors

Just a brief reminder for our parents/caregivers: if you need to collect your child early, are picking them up because they are unwell or you need to speak to a member of staff, please report to the Front Office and make yourself known to a member of the friendly Reception staff. They will handle your request whilst you take a seat in one of our comfortable front office chairs. It is essential for all visitors to follow this protocol to ensure we can maintain the health and safety for all of our students and staff.

### Student Free Day

On Tuesday 9 June staff will be involved in a full day of professional learning, therefore this will be a student free day for all students.

Peter Kuss  
Principal