



**GOVERNOR  
STIRLING**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

# **Parent Information Booklet 2020**

This booklet aims to provide parents/guardians and students with information on school operations, policies and expectations, and key staff in order to assist students to make a smooth transition to high school.

## The Governor Stirling Senior High School Focus

Was rebuilt for the start of 2013. The rebuild has changed the face of the school, incorporating state-of-the-art facilities.

The design takes full advantage of the site with a grand entrance and wonderful views of the river from many key locations. The arts program is fully supported with specialist drama, media and music areas.

Technology is used for student learning in all subjects with IT infrastructure included in all learning areas. The new school has many features which aim to enhance student learning.

The school has rejuvenated its programs to enhance educational opportunities for all students, including those with special talents and interests.

Your child is offered a suite of programs including Gifted & Talented Education, Approved Specialist Programs in Engineering, Artsmedia and Australian Rules Football, special school-based programs in Netball, Music, Aboriginal Education and nationally-accredited vocational certificates.

Governor Stirling Senior High School is also the home for the Primary Extension and Challenge Program (PEAC), giving Gifted and Talented primary students access to the excellent secondary facilities.

## The School Values

The students, staff and parents have created a learning environment with a set of values which are considered important for making a positive contribution at Governor Stirling Senior High School, and are the foundation of all interactions between students, staff and the community.

<b>Respect</b> Treat others with consideration, courtesy and fairness.
<b>Tolerance</b> Accept individual differences.
<b>Personal Excellence</b> Strive to achieve your best. Persevere.
<b>Responsibility</b> Acknowledge and accept the consequences of your actions.
<b>Honesty</b> Be honest, sincere and seek the truth in words and deeds.

# School Administration

## Executive Team

Principal	Dr Pasco Putrino
Vice Principal	Stephen Palandri
Vice Principal	Leonie Squire
Manager Corporate Services	Frank Cavicchio

## Learning Areas

English	Penny Steele
Mathematics	Ellen Bandarian
Humanities & Social Science and LOTE	Ashti Mullen
Science	Shaun Barton
Physical Education and Health	Kevin Peterson
Technology and Enterprise	David Scuderi
The Arts	Olga Konstantouras

## Student Services

Program Coordinator Yr 7-8	Diane Thorn
Program Coordinator Yr 9-10	Jules Zaffino
Program Coordinator Follow the Dream	Ewen Lawrie (Perri Foster T1)
Coordinator Year 7-8	Jessie Kaur
Coordinator Year 9-10	Raj De Santis
Coordinator Year 11-12	Andrew Davini
Academic Case Monitoring	Rachal Hughes
Vocation Education and Training and Careers	Karen Clark
AIEO	Melanie Pearmine
AIEO	Simone Narkle
AIEO	Troy Coleman
School Chaplain	Avram Iancu
Nurse	Maggie McGeachie
School Psychologist	Tom Moore

## Special Programs

Gifted and Talented Education Coordinator	Jennifer Lumia
Specialist Engineering Coordinator	David Scuderi
Specialist Artsmedia Coordinator	Lizzi Phillips
Specialist Football Coordinator	Andrew Davini and Sam Cavicchio

## School Based Program

Netball	Emma Cosh
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Staff members are correct at the time of printing and are subject to change.

## Bell Times

### Bell Times 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Warning Siren - 8.45 am				
Period 1 8.50 – 9.54	Period 1 8.50 – 9.54	Period 1 8.50 – 9.48	Period 1 8.50 – 9.54	Period 1 8.50 – 9.53
Period 2 9.54 – 10.58	Period 2 9.54 – 10.58	Period 2 9.48 – 10.46	Period 2 9.54 – 10.58	Period 2 9.53 – 10.56
Recess 10.58 – 11.23	Recess 10.58 – 11.23	Recess 10.46 – 11.11	Recess 10.58 – 11.23	Recess 10.56 – 11.26
Warning Siren – 11.06 am		(Wednesday) – 11.06am		W Siren – 11.21 am
Period 3 11.23 – 12.27	Period 3 11.23 – 12.27	Period 3 11.11 – 12.09	Period 3 11.23 – 12.27	Period 3 11.26 – 12.29
Period 4 12.27 – 1.31	Period 4 12.27 – 1.31	Period 4 12.09 – 1.07	Period 4 12.27 – 1.31	Period 4 12.29 – 1.32
Lunch 1.31 – 1.56	Lunch 1.31 – 1.56	Lunch 1.07 – 1.32	Lunch 1.31 – 1.56	Lunch 1.32 – 1.57
Warning Siren – 1.54 pm		(Wednesday) 1.27pm		WS – 13.52 pm
Period 5 1.56 – 3.00	Period 5 1.56 – 3.00	Period 5 1.32 – 2.30	Period 5 1.56 – 3.00	Period 5 1.57 – 3.00

## Student Transport

School buses will pick up students at the end of the day at the student bus stop along Third Avenue near Ford Street. This service is provided by Swan Transit. Students are expected to comply with all safety regulations and conduct themselves appropriately when using the bus service. Students will be issued with a photo identity Smartrider card for travel purposes. Rail services are also available from Woodbridge Station nearby.

Parents are to pick up and drop students off safely in the parking bays along Third Avenue. For safety reasons and to avoid congestion, parents are requested NOT to drop off or pick up students at the roundabout at the front of the school.

*\*Note early close on Wednesday, students catching the bus will be supervised from 2:30pm until stated pick up times.*

## Student Vehicles

Students who use a motor vehicle to travel to school are not permitted to use these vehicles during their school day. The definition of a motor vehicle includes cars, motor bikes and motorised scooters.

Once the student vehicle has been parked the vehicle is NOT to be used again until the student leaves the school for the day. The only exception to this is if the student has a genuine appointment he or she needs to attend during the day, this fact needs to be supported by a permission note from parent.

All students who drive a vehicle to school are asked to park in the nominated student parking area. Students must follow appropriate signing out process at Student Services prior to departure.

Student vehicles are not permitted to be parked in Staff/Visitors car parks. Cars must be parked outside the school grounds in designated student parking bays. They should be left locked and are not to be used during school hours for any purpose. Students must register their car with the school.

Student drivers may not transport others students without the written permission of their parents and the parents of the students being transported.

## School Attendance

It is expected that all students will maintain a high attendance record, more than 90%, and will be punctual to all classes. Learning to manage travel time and subject requirements are a priority for all students in specialist programs. Students must supply parental notification for any absences to the absentee officer.

Attendance is a legal requirement which is your responsibility as parent/guardian. Teachers keep records for every period and these are reviewed by our Student Services team and Regional Office. Students should strive to minimise school absences. Parents/Guardians are required to provide evidence of student absences, most commonly with medical certificates.

An absentee note signed by the parent/guardian or a medical certificate must be produced within two days of that absence. Notes need to include student name, year, date of absence and the reason. Notice may be given by telephone before 9.30 am to Student Services, phone: 6274 0331 on the day of absence.

Student attendance is regularly monitored and parents informed of absences. Student Services will assist parents and students in clarifying attendance issues and the school rules.

Student attendance is recorded on their reports.

The Department of Education strongly encourages families and carers to plan family holidays and other avoidable absences, during the allocated school breaks. Special permission is required in advanced to be obtained by the principal if leave during school term is required. Each request will be assessed individually for grounds of acceptable approval.

Attendance is a legal requirement until the end of the year in which a student turns 17.

### Special Exemptions

A student may be permitted to leave school before the end of the seventeenth year if they are employed in a secure and guaranteed full time job or enrolled in a special course/TAFE, Traineeship or Apprenticeship, including midyear entry. Parents and students must complete a Notice of Arrangement form (supplied by the school). Final approval can only be granted by the Minister of Education.

### SMS Absentee Messaging

Parents will be notified of daily absentees via SMS. Once a student has been registered as absent from school an automated SMS message will be sent to the parent's mobile phone, usually by 10.30 am.

### Truancy

Student absences are recorded during the first lesson of each day, and checks are made during each class session for the remainder of the day. Variations are noted and parents contacted if truancy is suspected.

### Sickness

In the case of absences extending beyond 2 days, a medical certificate must be provided with the absentee note. This is particularly important for students receiving government Assistance (e.g. Youth Allowance) or for senior students who are absent for assessment items (i.e. tests, examinations). Wherever possible, parents are urged to make private appointments for their children out of school hours. If an appointment during school time is necessary students must obtain an "Early Leaver's Pass" from Student Services.

### Leaving School Grounds

During the school day, no student is permitted to leave the school grounds unless they have an Early Leaver's Pass, which is only provided after a note from a parent/guardian. For example, any student with a valid reason wishing to leave school before 3:00pm (Wednesday's at 2:30pm) must have a request note from a parent/guardian or an appointment card (doctor, dentist). Details must be entered into the early leaver's book in the Student Services office.

### Late to School

Students arriving after 8.55 am, with a note or NO Smartrider, must report to the Student Services office and receive a late note before going to class. Students arriving late with JUST a barcoded Smartrider can sign in at Front Office.

## Behaviour Management Policy

Governor Stirling Senior High School operates on the belief that all students have the ability and the right to learn. Managing student behaviour is a shared responsibility with students, parents and teachers working to create a safe, caring and productive learning environment.

The Student Code of Conduct is based on the School Values of respect, responsibility, tolerance, personal excellence and honesty. The principles of restorative practice form the basis of the school approach to behaviour management. Restorative practice is the science of building social capital and achieving social discipline through participation, learning and decision-making.

The fundamental basis of restorative practice is - people are happier when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them.

The three principles of fair process are:

### Engagement

Involving individuals in decisions that affect them, by listening to their views and genuinely taking their opinions into account.

### Explanation

Explaining the reasoning to everyone who has been involved or who is affected by it.

### Expectation clarity

Making sure that everyone clearly understands a decision and what is expected of them in the future.

## Rights and Responsibilities

Everyone has a right to learn and work without being disrupted by others:

1. Follow instructions.
2. Respect other people's property.
3. Participate fully in your educational program.
4. Attend school and classes regularly and be on time.
5. Take responsibility for your own learning.

Everyone has a right to be treated respectfully:

1. Be polite.
2. Speak to others respectfully.
3. Resolve conflicts using the principles of restorative justice.

Everyone has a right to work in a clean, safe, and harassment free environment:

1. Keep the campus grounds and facilities clean.
2. Always act safely.
3. Respect the privacy and feelings of others.
4. Respect individual and cultural differences.

## Good Standing

The GSSH Good Standing Plan relates directly to the student Code of Conduct, which in turn is derived from our School Values of: Respect, Responsibility, Tolerance, Excellence and Honesty.

The Good Standing Plan provides a framework to promote and maintain high standards across all of the dimensions of student behaviour, focusing on the following target areas:

1. Commitment to academic success
2. Conduct

All students commence their school year with Good Standing. Students maintain their Good Standing by meeting the school's expectations in terms of the target areas above.

Students can achieve 'Advanced Standing' by consistently meeting the school's expectations and striving for excellence, and by making valuable extra contributions to the school community. This can include representing the school in sporting teams, music ensembles and other artistic endeavours, debating, volunteering, or playing a leadership role.

Individual student Good Standing status will be monitored continuously and regularly communicated to students. Students who lose Good Standing will be given every opportunity and support to return to Good Standing within the given time frame.

## School Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct identifies for students, parents and staff, the specific requirements relating to students at Governor Stirling Senior High School. It is essential that students abide by the high expectations outlined in the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct underpins Governor Stirling Senior High School's Behaviour Management Plan which represents a whole school approach towards ensuring a safe, caring and productive learning environment.

The Code of Conduct is derived from demonstrating the School Values on a daily basis.

### Responsibility and Behaviour

Students will be expected to uphold the behaviours outlined in the student charter, as detailed below.

## Student Charter

EVERY STUDENT HAS THE RIGHT TO:	EVERY STUDENT HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO:
1. Learning without disruption.	1. Allow others to learn.
2. Be treated courteously and respectfully.	2. Treat others courteously and respectfully and follow teachers' instructions without comment.
3. Work in a clean environment and have their property respected.	3. Contribute to a clean environment and respect student, staff and school property.
4. Work in a safe environment.	4. Behave in a manner that ensures the safety of everyone, including self.
5. Reach their potential.	5. Participate fully in their educational program.

## Drugs and Alcohol Policy

Governor Stirling Senior High School aims to provide and maintain a health promoting school environment which enables students to reach their full academic and personal potential.

Governor Stirling Senior High School does not permit any member of the school community, including students, staff and visitors while on school premises, at any school function, excursion or camp to:

1. Smoke or possess tobacco products.
2. Consume or possess alcohol.
3. Deliberately inhale volatile substances (solvents).
4. Possess or use pharmaceutical drugs for non-medical purposes.
5. Possess or use illegal drugs.
6. Possess or use drug-related equipment and knowingly be in the presence of others who are in breach of this policy.
7. Aerosol deodorants are NOT permitted at school.

## Assessment Policy

The full policy is available on the school web site and CONNECT and will be explained to your child at the beginning of the year. Below are the major headings within this policy document. Each of these headings explains the policy and the specific responsibilities of each member involved. The Assessment Policy is a very important document concerned with how and when your son/daughter's school work is assessed. Please look on the website for the extended version.



## Homework Policy

In order to be a successful university-bound student at high school a student should devote a certain amount of time to homework on a regular basis.

### The recommended minimum times are:

**Year 7 and 8** - 1 hr per night, 5 nights a week

**Year 9** - 1.5 hrs per night, 5 nights a week

**Year 10** - 2 hrs per night, 5 nights a week

**Year 11** - 2.5 hrs per night, 5 nights a week

**Year 12** - 2.5 hrs per night, 5 nights a week

### Purposes of Homework/Study

1. Allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class.
2. Provides training for students in planning and organising time.
3. Develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources.
4. Establishing habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives.
5. Strengthens home-school links.
6. Reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education.
7. Provides parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children.
8. Challenges and extends gifted and talented children.
9. Preparation and revision for examinations.

### Homework Expectations

#### Parents and Caregivers can help by:

1. Taking an active interest in homework.
2. Ensuring that there is time set aside for homework.
3. Encouraging and supporting students to complete homework.
4. Providing, where possible, a dedicated place and desk for homework and study.
5. Encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events.
6. Encouraging students to focus on vocations.
7. Assisting teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested and being aware of the amount of homework set.
8. Communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework.
9. Alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or corrected.

#### Teachers can help by:

1. Ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the school's homework policy.
2. providing quality homework activities related to class work.
3. Setting a suitable amount of relevant homework which is appropriate to the ability of each student.
4. Ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed.
5. Giving students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, completing home obligations and extracurricular activities and homework set by others teachers.
6. Marking homework promptly and appropriately, maintaining homework records and providing feedback to students and parents or caregivers.

7. Alerting parents or caregivers of any developing problems concerning their children's homework, and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework.

**Students can help by:**

1. Being aware of their school's homework policy.
2. Completing homework within the given time frame.
3. Alerting parents or caregivers to homework expectations.
4. Seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise.
5. Ensuring homework is of a high standard.
6. Organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to qualify homework within set deadlines.

## Dress Code Policy

Governor Stirling Senior High School has a community-endorsed dress code in accordance with the Education Act of 1999. The school expects ALL students to be proud of their appearance and wear full uniform at all times. A high standard of dress, appearance and neatness from all students ensures a positive school image.

### General Requirements

- Clothing which has advertising is NOT acceptable – School Uniform must be worn.
- Make-up and jewellery are NOT appropriate.
- Long hair must be tied back for safety reasons.
- Thongs, backless sandals etc. must NOT be worn – enclosed shoes must be worn.
- Mini Skirts or leggings are NOT permitted.
- Safety – specific requirements for uniform may be identified by subject areas.

### Everyday Unisex Wear for Boys and Girls

- School navy/gold polo shirt with school logo - Unisex.
- School navy blue school shorts with gold trim - Unisex.
- School navy blue long track pant with gold trim - Unisex.
- Plain navy blue long suit pants (no logos) - Unisex.
- School white shirts with school logo - Boys and Girls.
- School navy jumper with school logo - Unisex.
- School razer zip jacket with logo - Unisex.
- Enclosed shoes only (open back footwear is NOT acceptable).
- Socks - white, navy or grey socks.

### Sport Uniform

Plain navy/white PE track suit pants or shorts with School PE navy/white polo shirts with Physical Education Logo. Students can also wear a coloured T-Shirt during carnivals in support of their faction/house.

All school uniform items are available for purchase at Slater Gartrell  
in Helena Street Midland phone 9274 5788.

# Responsible Use of Mobile Technology Devices

The decision to ban the use of mobile technology in schools is intended to remove the potential learning distractions for students, protect the privacy of staff and students, improve social connections at school and improve the health and wellbeing of students.

- For the purposes of this policy, 'mobile phones' includes smart watches, other electronic communication devices, and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds.
- All smart watches must be on 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- The use of mobile phones is banned on school grounds from the time students arrive at school to the conclusion of the school day.
- **It is preferable that students do not bring a mobile phone to school.**
- **GSSHS and its staff are not responsible for personal mobile phones owned by students that are brought to the school.**

## Family and Student Communication

All communication between parents/guardians and students during school hours should occur via either Student Services or the front office administration. In an emergency situation, parents/guardians should contact the front office and staff will immediately inform the student. If a student wishes to contact a parent/guardian, they must do so during break times through Student Services. **Parents/guardians are not to communicate with students via mobile phone during school hours.**

## Consequences for Inappropriate Use of Mobile Technology

In any instance where a student has a mobile phone visible while on school grounds, the following procedures will be followed:

### First Occasion:

- The student will hand in their mobile phone to the teacher/staff member
- The teacher/staff member will hand over the mobile phone to Student Services at their earliest convenience where it will be logged and stored for the remainder of the day
- **At the end of the school day the student will be able to collect the mobile phone from Student Services.**

### Subsequent Occasions:

- The student will hand in their device to the teacher/staff member
- The teacher/staff member will hand over the device to the Student Services/Deputy Principal at their earliest convenience where it will be logged and stored for the remainder of the day
- **At the end of the school day a Parent/Guardian will be able to collect the mobile phone from the Front Office/Deputy Principal. The mobile phone will not be returned to the student.**

*This mobile phone policy is an extension of the school Behaviour Management in Schools Policy. If at any time a student refuses to follow the instruction of a staff member, the Behaviour Management in Schools Policy and Procedures will be applied*

This policy is guided by the new Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy, effective from 3 February 2020.

## Computer and Internet Use Policy

All users of the computer network at Governor Stirling Senior High School must accept responsibility for knowing the contents of the Governor Stirling Senior High School Computer Use Policy, and must agree to abide by the policy. Failure to do so will result in student use of the computers being restricted to specific learning tasks, therefore restricting access. Students will not be able to access the computers unless directed by a teacher.

Students will be personally responsible for their actions and intentions when using the Internet. Students who breach this policy will be denied access to the school network.

### Internet Use

Users will not access News-groups or any type of social or chat line in the school network. Users will not locate, access or download any material that could be offensive to other students, teachers or parents. This would include – pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, offensive language or engaging in behaviour that contravenes the Governor Stirling Senior High School Behaviour Policy. Users will not locate, access or download executable software.

All material placed on the school website will:

1. Be checked for appropriateness and, as far as possible, accuracy;
2. Not violate copyright;
3. Not use the surnames of students and staff;
4. Not contain home addresses or home phone numbers of any individual; and
5. Not contain email or web address of students or staff.

### Email Use

1. Users will be respectful of others and use appropriate written expression; and
2. Users will not harass others with unsolicited material (jokes, pictures).

### Computer Use

Users will agree to use the school computers carefully and look after them.

Students are not to access Facebook while at school.

### Copyright

Breach of copyright refers to copying information directly into your documents without acknowledging the source of that information. If users put information from the internet into their documents, they must not use material that has been directly copied or plagiarised and they must acknowledge sources in the correct referencing format.

## Video and Film Permission Policy

At Governor Stirling Senior High School, we recognise that Viewing and Listening forms a significant part of the curriculum. It is essential that we have written permission to show films and television programs – including the news and news commentary programs – documentaries and advertisements which complement our courses and make the students more critically aware.

We request that you check and sign the appropriate section of the permission form (included with enrolment package) giving us permission to show appropriate “G” and “PG” rated programs to your child. Should it be considered necessary to use “M” rated video due to their being no suitable alternative, a specific permission form for that particular video will be sent home by the class teacher.

Please note, students are strictly prohibited from using their mobile phones to capture video or still images while at school, while travelling to and from school, or on school activities.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## Privacy and Security Policy

Department of Education Policy requires that Governor Stirling Senior High School gains parental/guardian permission before using visual images of students, such as photographs, outside the school environment.

Governor Stirling Senior High School will frequently use images of students in a variety of ways to recognise excellent achievement, inform parents and the local community of school matters, publicise events and to promote the school. From time to time we may also be asked to contribute to Department of Education materials such as educational videos and the "School Matters" newspaper. Governor Stirling Senior High School also has an Internet site, which may result in your child's image potentially being accessed worldwide through the Internet.

We request your permission to use any images of your child in some or all of the ways listed below:

1. School Website / CD ROM / Video / Newsletters / Magazines / Social Media or any medium in relation to school activities;
2. Promotional material for the Department of Education or Governor Stirling Senior High School Articles for West Australian / School Matters; and/or
3. Community Newspapers, Office displays.

We also request your permission to use your child's name in association with images, except that names will not be used on the school website. You are of course at liberty to withdraw your consent at any time by contacting the school in writing.

## Indigenous Education

The Indigenous Education Team at Governor Stirling Senior High School includes Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers (AIEOs), Follow The Dream/Partnerships for Success (FTD) Coordinator and FTD tutors, a Literacy Support tutor, Wirrapanda Foundation and Deadly Sista Girlz.

This team is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for our Indigenous students, and offer a variety of programs to assist students:

1. Follow the Dream/Partnerships for Success
2. In-school tuition
3. In-class support
4. Mentor and counselling

Follow the Dream/Partnerships for Success supports Indigenous students from Years 7 to 12, who have the potential to attain educational success, are focussed on completing Senior School and gaining the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE), have family support and attend school regularly. Students attend mainstream classes and receive additional assistance in an after-school model.

Key elements of the program include Learning Centre Homework classes, tutors, excursions, camp, family involvement and traineeships are available. Excursions to sites such as Universities, Perth Cultural Centre, culturally-specific films and camp are highlights of the Partnerships for Success/Follow the Dream Program.

## 2020 Key Dates

### Semester 1

**Term 1** Mon 3 Feb – Thurs 9 April

*Break Fri 10 April – Tues 28 April*

**Term 2** Wed 29 April – Fri 3 July

*Break Sat 4 July – Mon 20 July*

### Semester 2

**Term 3** Tue 21 July – Fri 25 Sept

*Break Sat 26 Sept – Sun 11 Oct*

**Term 4** Mon 12 Oct – Thurs 17 Dec

*Break Fri 18 Dec – Sun 31 Jan 2021*

There are several school development days decided by the school, where students do not attend.

### Students do not attend on:

Term 1: Thursday 30 January and Friday 31 January.

Term 2: Tuesday 28 April.

Term 3: Monday 20 July.

Term 4: Friday 27 November and Friday 18 December.

### Public Holidays 2020

New Year's Day	Wednesday 1 January 2020.
Australia Day	Monday 27 January 2020 (actual date, Sunday 26 January).
Labour Day	Monday 2 March 2020.
Good Friday	Friday 10 April 2020.
Easter Sunday	Sunday 12 April 2020.
Easter Monday	Monday 13 April 2020.
ANZAC Day	Monday 27 April 2020 (actual date, Saturday 25 April).
Western Australia Day	Monday 1 June 2020.
Queen's Birthday	Monday 28 September 2020.
Christmas Day	Friday 25 December 2020.
Boxing Day	Monday 28 December 2020 (actual date Saturday 26 December).

Visit the school website [www.govo.wa.edu.au](http://www.govo.wa.edu.au) for all other important dates and events.

## General Information

### Additional Assistance Schemes

Financial assistance may be available from either the State or Commonwealth Governments. However, due to changes from year to year, it may be necessary to contact: Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs. Contact Centrelink on 132 490 or at <http://www.youthallowance.centrelink.gov.au> or the Education Department (for State Government Allowances) telephone 9264 4111. If you have any queries or concerns relating to payment, please contact the school.

### Bicycles

Bicycles, scooters and skateboards must not be ridden in the school grounds. They need to be padlocked and parked in the DESIGNATED area adjacent to the courts, and not used during school hours. By law, students are required to wear a bicycle helmet.

### Buses/Trains

All students will be issued with a Smartrider card. Lost cards must be reported to the Library. Students are required to comply with all bus safety and behaviour rules. Failure to comply may mean a refusal of permission to travel on the bus or train.

### Smart Riders

All students commencing at the school will be issued with a free Smartrider card. Students requiring a replacement card are to report to the library either before school or at lunch time. Students are responsible for the cost of all replacement cards.

### Cafeteria

The cafeteria will operate for the benefit of students and staff under the direction of the Parents and Citizens Association. Varied food items and drinks are available. As it is the major fund-raising done by the school, your support in its operation is essential. Parent help in the cafeteria is requested. Volunteers are rostered for one day per fortnight or whenever you are available. Please contact the cafeteria manager, Melanie Brittain on 6274 0326 if you can help.

### Chaplain

The Chaplain works at the school part-time and is located in the Student Service area of the school. The Chaplain offers pastoral care to the wider school community. This is available to staff, students and their families. Visits to the Chaplain are by appointment only made through Student Services.

### Health Centre

A Community Nurse works at the school part-time. The main role of the nurse is health education and health promotion. Visits to the Nurse are by appointment only made through Student Services. The Nurse is located in the Student Services area.

### Library

There is a vast array of resources in the school library available for all students to use. There is a two-week loan limit on resources, but this can be extended upon request. Students use their Smartrider card for borrowing of fiction and non-fiction books as well as magazines. Items that are lost or damaged are the responsibility of the borrower and a charge will be made for their replacement. Digital resources can now also be viewed off-site. Movies, documentaries and YouTube content - all advert free - that are on the library catalogue can be viewed outside of School grounds, provided you have internet connection. Students simply log onto the school's library website using their password. The library is open before school at 8am and at lunch time for games/reading and study.

### Newsletter

School newsletters are published once/twice each term as a way of conveying information; to parents and guardians regarding activities at the school, general information, items of interest to parents and students, and as a reference for forthcoming events and important dates. All parents are automatically registered when entering the school. Newsletters are distributed via email. Hardcopies can be obtained through the front office. Extended family and friends can also register for a newsletter via our school website, Schoolzine link.

### Social Media

The school uses Facebook to keep the community of Governor Stirling SHS up-to-date with school achievements, class room learning and special events that are happening on a daily basis, keeping parents involved in their child/s school activities. [www.facebook.com/governorstirling](http://www.facebook.com/governorstirling).

### Connect

Connect is an integrated online environment developed by the Department of Education WA for staff, students and parents in public schools. It allows parents to view their children's assessment results and attendance. It is also a secure method for providing parents and students with important notices from the School.

Parents are automatically invited to join Connect via email at time of enrolment. Parents/carers are to accept the email invitation in order to complete the registering process. A unique password/pin is then distributed via email. Students also receive their own password/pin during school along with a student email account.

### Psychologist

A Psychologist works at the school part time. The role of the school Psychologist is to provide support and intervention to students with learning, behavioural, emotional and social issues. This work is achieved in collaboration with allied health professionals, staff, and parents to maximise students' learning potential. Students can see the Psychologist by making an appointment through Student Services.

### School Ball

The annual School Ball is an extracurricular school activity organised for Senior School students in Year 11 and 12. It is an important event on the school calendar, one that students generally look forward to very much each year. The Ball is organised by the Senior School Coordinator and the Ball Committee. The Code of Conduct applies to all school functions.

### Functions

Only students attending Governor Stirling Senior High School are permitted to attend school functions. \* School Rules apply; appropriate dress must be worn at all times; students must behave in an acceptable manner; no student is allowed to leave during the hours of the event/function.

\*Year 12 students may request to invite an external partner to the Senior School Ball through the appropriate application available at Student Services.

### Student Council

Governor Stirling Senior High School will maintain a student council. There will be two School Captains and a body of councillors comprised of students elected by each year group.

### School Telephones

School telephones are used to conduct official school business. Students may only have access to these telephones in an emergency and after having been granted permission to make a telephone call home by the Vice Principals or the Coordinators in Student Services.

### Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Vocational Education and Training (VET) opportunities are available to Year 11 & 12 students and provide access to further education and training pathways and nationally recognised qualifications. Completion of certificates contributes toward attainment of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). Students are provided with information about the courses available when selecting their Year 11 and 12 subjects. School-Based Traineeships (SBT's) and School-Based Apprenticeships (SBA's) are available through a range of organizations. Successful students will gain a VET qualification and will receive a training wage whilst completing their traineeship or



apprenticeship. Traineeship durations vary from qualification to qualifications but an expected 18 months is minimum.

### Career Centre

Our career Centre has experience helping students find their career path, applying for part time employment. Information on choosing training and career options; help with resumes and job applications; University guides and TISC applications. Students can drop in during lunch and recess times. Parents are welcome by appointment.

### Year 12 Awards Night

A formal ceremony is held in Term 4 each year to acknowledge and celebrate the completion of secondary schooling and their success. The school reserves the right to withdraw the privilege of attendance at the awards ceremony for any Year 12 who commits a serious breach of the School Code of Conduct.

### Group Coordinators - Student Services

Coordinators work in conjunction with the Program Coordinator (Student Services) and staff, together with parents and students on the social, emotional, learning needs of students, as well as provide pastoral care and behaviour support.

Parents are encouraged to contact the coordinator of their respective year group to discuss any aspects of their son or daughter's schooling.