



17 June 2009

Dear Parent / Caregiver

### Whooping Cough (Pertussis) Alert

A student from our school has been diagnosed with whooping cough. We have advised the parent to keep the student home and this is happening. Whooping cough is currently prevalent in the community and is spread more easily during winter.

It is a notifiable, highly infectious bacterial infection of the nose and throat and is transmitted by direct contact with droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person. A person is infectious from the beginning of the illness and may remain infectious for up to three weeks. The illness is generally characterised by cold-like symptoms, a feeling of being unwell and a dry cough that may last for months.

Parents / caregivers should consult with their doctor or clinic immediately if their son / daughter displays whooping cough symptoms. Once whooping cough has been diagnosed the student needs to stay home for 21 days from the onset of coughing or until the student has taken five days of an appropriate antibiotic.

Please continue to observe the precautions outlined and thank you for your assistance in ensuring the safety of all our students and staff. If you have any queries please contact me at the school by phone or by email at [steve.stylianou@gihs.sa.edu.au](mailto:steve.stylianou@gihs.sa.edu.au)

Yours sincerely

Steve Stylianou  
Assistant Principal

Wendy Johnson  
Principal



Principal  
Ms Wendy Johnson

L'Estrange Street  
Glenunga  
South Australia 5064

T +61 8 8379 5629  
F +61 8 8338 2518  
E [glenunga@gihs.sa.edu.au](mailto:glenunga@gihs.sa.edu.au)

[www.gihs.sa.edu.au](http://www.gihs.sa.edu.au)

A Special Interest School  
for Students with High  
Intellectual Potential

An International Baccalaureate  
World School

An Internationally Accredited  
School



Department of Education and  
Children's Services T/A South  
Australian Government Schools  
CRICOS Provider No. 00018A

