

Dear Parents,

There are some busy weeks ahead of with the commencement of the Year 12 Trial HSC Examinations and Year 10 Parent Subject Selection Interviews for Friday 21 August.

Year 12 Students

Good luck with your HSC Trial Examinations which commence on Monday 17 August with English. This is a great opportunity for Year 12 to practice and implement all that they have been learning in preparation for the HSC Examinations.

The HSC Presiding Officer has been engaged to conduct these examinations and will implement the same guidelines that the boys will have for the HSC. This is to assist them with being familiar with her management of examinations, all the required HSC examination procedures and will allow teachers time to provide quality feedback on their students' performance and plan for the remaining 4 weeks of Year 12.

During the Trial Examinations the safety of the students, staff and the school community remains a priority.

The COVID-19 safe HSC Trial Examination message is:

- stay at home and get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms,
- regularly wash your hands,
- cover coughs and sneezes, and
- avoid touching your face.



Year 12 – End of Year Celebrations

The end of year celebrations for Year 12, including Graduation Dinner, Graduation Assembly and Formal are in the planning phase and information regarding how these events will be conducted will be communicated in the very near future. To conduct these functions we will have to adhere to the current guidelines and restrictions, which may require some adjustments to how they would normally be conducted.

Year 11 2021 Subject Selection Interviews

Subject Selection Interviews for Year 10 students will be conducted on Friday 21 August. This is an important interview for finalising their subjects for Stage 6 courses in 2021. This year the process will be slightly different due to the Department of Education guidelines with respect to parents entering school grounds.

Parents and their son are required to attend the interview via a Zoom meeting with their allocated Asquith Boys High School teacher representative, who will send out the link via email. If the Year 10 student is unable to be with his parents for the Zoom meeting, he must attend school for the interview. In this case, he must wear his school uniform to school and arrive 10 minutes prior to the scheduled meeting time. After the meeting he is able to return home as Year 10 students are not required to be at school for normal lessons on this day.

Students at Coles and the Chemist

A reminder to both parents and students that the students are not to be at Coles and/or the Chemist, without a parent, in the morning from 8-8.40am or afternoon until after 4pm. This is to avoid them getting reported for inappropriate behaviour and from time to time theft. Both venues have been advised to report any inappropriate or illegal behaviour to the Police. Students not complying with this request may receive disciplining from the school as students have been advised of this ban and been warned regarding the consequences on numerous occasions at assemblies and through school newsletters.

Your assistance and support with communicating this to your sons is appreciated.

Social Distancing by Students

I request that all parents have a discussion with their sons about reinforcing the importance of social distancing. While we are explicit with stressing this fact with our students on a weekly basis, the very real and confusing fact for students is that these guidelines do not apply to them while they are on school grounds. However, once they exit the school they are expected to comply with these guidelines on the footpaths, at the train station, on the trains and buses, to and from school. Please remind your sons that they must comply with these guidelines. Your support is greatly appreciated at this time, as there have been a number of concerned community members who have raised this issue with the school since we returned for Term 3.

School Counsellor - Resources

Mrs Wakelin the School Counsellor highly recommends the following excellent resources for parents and their sons. These are well worth reading or accessing for strategies and tips on how to support your son to manage stress and remain motivated for school despite this difficult stage of their schooling.

Supporting students to manage their mental health is more important than ever.

[ReachOut website](#)

[Common Concerns regarding Stress](#)

[Motivating your teenager when school is the last thing on their mind](#)



60th Anniversary Celebrations – Postponed for 12 months

Due to the unprecedented times, Department of Education guidelines and restrictions, as well as the unpredictable nature of COVID-19 in and around the community, we have decided that it would be wise to postpone all planned 60th Anniversary celebrations for 12 months.

This includes the Golf Day, 60th Anniversary Formal Dinner and the P&C Community Day, which were all planned for September.

All information about the new dates and events will be communicated through a variety of mediums in 2021, when we all hope the guidelines and restrictions have been lifted to a level which allows them to be conducted successfully.

National Art School success

Congratulations to Dylan Jeffries, Matthew Fletcher and Nathan Parise of Year 11 for being selected into the National Art School Intensive Student Practice program for 2020, in Sculpture. I know that Ms Robson is extremely excited to have 3 students successfully apply and be invited to participate in this program. We know that they will represent themselves and the school exceptionally well, and be able to implement their newly acquired skills into their major works in Year 12.

Students who are unwell

Again, a reminder and a school request that students with any illness symptoms, no matter how mild, should not be sent to school. We appreciate families supporting the school with the request. If any student presents to school unwell, they will be sent to the front office for parents to collect. They will not be able to remain at school and in sick bay.

Parents are also asked to:

- Not enter the school grounds for any reason unless an appointment has been made.
- Keep students home if they have **ANY** symptom of being unwell, however mild.
- Follow normal absentee procedures, should your son be too unwell to attend school.

We will continue to advise and inform you as restrictions change, and appreciate your support with the ever changing and very complex nature of the circumstances that exist, not only within the school environment but in society at the present time.

Thank you again for your support of the school as we continue to educate and support your sons.

Mr Bryce Grant

Principal

14 August, 2020

YEAR 12 STUDY GUIDES AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY

ABHS has a range of study guide books available for students in Year 11 & 12 to refer to while they work towards improving their ATAR estimates and final grades. They range from workbooks through to past HSC papers and topic tests.

Study guides range right across all subject areas and the books can be borrowed in consultation with library staff so feel free to come and chat about what you would like to refer to.

Follow these links as well to get started with other eResources.

[HSC Student Hub - Exam Tips](#)

[SMH HSC Study Guide 2020](#)

