



2 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As the school term ends, I would like to provide families with an update on how we have transitioned back to face-to-face teaching and highlight some important information for the start for Term 3. It has been wonderful to see the boys return to face-to-face teaching and share our experiences and learnings regarding working from home. It was clear when we commenced the transition to full time attendance, that the boys had missed the social interaction with their teachers and peers. As a school we have learned a great deal, trialled new initiatives and are certainly taking time to reflect on how we are using technology to assist us, not only in teaching and learning, but in many of our administrative processes. Our online assemblies have evolved into an outstanding learning experience for many students with the introduction of our own St Edward's College TV (SECTV), which broadcasts live across the school during Friday Assemblies; we have trialled parent, teacher and student conferencing online with Year 12 students; we have conducted subject selection information sessions for Year 10 students and their families online all with great success. Importantly however, we have continued to evaluate how we are using technology in our classrooms to develop contemporary learning skills such as creative thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration.

Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day) Monday July 20

As reported in the last edition of Touchstones, we have planned a Staff Development Day for **Monday July 20**. We were initially scheduled to participate in network meetings with teachers from other Edmund Rice Schools in our region on this day but the current restrictions prevent us from following this plan. The day will now focus on consolidating the many learnings that we have gained from an organisational and educational point of view, particularly in the use of technology in our classrooms. We plan to draw on the experience to reimagine what teaching and learning might look like in the future.

Hygiene, cleaning and safety protocols

We will continue to implement the hygiene and cleaning protocols that have been introduced in response to COVID-19. Hand sanitising stations are available for students to access all around the school and they are encouraged to use them at the start of the day, at the end of breaks and in the afternoon. We are relying on students being responsible in maintaining this practice. We will continue to employ cleaning personnel to work throughout the day to clean restroom facilities and unused classrooms regularly.

Importantly we remind parents that any students or staff who display any signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) are not permitted to attend school. The College will continue to take a strong stance on sending home any staff member or student who presents with any of the signs and symptoms as per the Government Department of Health website advice:

- fever
- coughing
- sore throat
- shortness of breath

Term 3 expectations regarding uniform and grooming

The College prides itself on the way boys present themselves each day at school and within the community. On accepting enrolment at the College all students and parents agree to support the rules, expectations, policies and procedures of students attending the College. As parents are aware, we introduced some flexibility in relation to the wearing of the College uniform, to assist families who have not been able to purchase the winter uniform during Term 2. From the commencement of Term 3 we ask for parent support in ensuring the following in relation to uniform and grooming. Cowan and Lewis will continue to operate from their warehouse at Unit 3/6 Bowen Crescent West Gosford, for uniform purchases. Please check the College website for holiday hours and normal operating hours.





Uniform for Term 3

1. Students are welcome to wear a College Blazer, but this is not compulsory.
2. Only the winter uniform is to be worn including long pants, school shirt, College tie, school jumper, College sports if a student does not have a blazer. (Many quality second-hand blazers are available for students free of charge through student reception)
3. Summer uniform is **not** to be worn.
4. No non-school uniform items are permitted.
5. We are continuing to allow students in Years 7-10 to wear their sports uniform on days when they have a practical PD/H/PE Lesson. This is a trial and students who wear their sports uniform on a day in which they do not have PD/H/PE, will be issued a Thursday detention.
6. Years 7 – 10 students can wear their sports uniforms on Fridays, regardless of whether they have activities that afternoon.

Grooming

1. Hair must be brushed, neat and tidy, off the collar and their natural colour.
2. Extreme hairstyles are not acceptable. Examples of unacceptable hairstyles include undercuts, layers, steps, lines, bowl cuts, rats' tails, long fringes and mullets.
3. Facial hair shaven.
4. Students with unacceptable hairstyles will be issued with a Thursday detention and will be asked to wear a hat until the hairstyle is corrected which should occur as soon as reasonably possible. Students may also be removed from the playground at recess and lunch if not corrected within an agreed time.

More information regarding the College's expectation in relation to uniform and grooming is available on the College Website at: [Uniform and Grooming](#)

Reports

The interruption to our normal calendar will mean that the Years 7-10 Semester One Reports will be completed and uploaded to the Student Portal early in Term 3 rather than at the end of Term 2. This will allow teachers to continue to teach and conduct assessment up until the end of the term providing students much needed time to consolidate their learning prior to assessment now that classes have commenced full time. Year 11 Preliminary Reporting will be unchanged - the next report that Year 11 students receive will be at the start of Term 4 when they have completed their Preliminary Courses. Year 12 students will receive their Trial HSC Reports at the conclusion of the trial exams, which have now been moved back to weeks 5 - 7 of Term 3.

I wish all our boys a very happy and safe term break and look forward to seeing them back at school at the start of Term 3. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 4321 6400 or at principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au if you have any questions or would like to discuss the information outlined in this letter.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bonnici
College Principal