



5 October 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 12 Students

I would like to welcome all families and students to the commencement of Term 4 and hope the holiday break provided an opportunity for students to refresh and prepare for a continuation of Home-Based Learning, a return to face-to-face teaching and the HSC Examinations commencing on Tuesday November 9.

The NSW Government announced last week a revised plan for the return of students to on-campus learning, to a week earlier than what was initially planned. The staggered return will now be according to the following timeline.

- Year 12 are scheduled to return on Monday October 18
- Year 11 Monday October 25
- Years 7-10 November 1.

This return will be governed by Level 3 Plus guidelines. These comprehensive guidelines were released to schools last Friday and we are in the process of developing a COVID Safe Plan based on the finer details contained in this plan and I will share this with families early next week. The guidelines outline protocols associated with the staggered return, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students and staff. They cover areas such as cleaning and hygiene regulations, physical distancing, wearing of masks, ventilation, COVID vaccinations, HSC Examination protocols, permissible activities and a cohort approach to a return.

At the end of last term families were informed of the Year 12 Information Webinar which was scheduled for Tuesday October 19. With the revised timeline for a return to face-to-face learning, this information session has now been brought forward a week to Tuesday October 12 at 6.30pm, so that important information can be shared with students and families prior to the commencement of classes and the HSC examinations. This webinar will cover key areas of the safe return to classes on-campus and answer the questions that were raised in the survey that was distributed at the end of Term 3. I thank families who took the time to provide the College with feedback regarding our approach to Home-Based Learning and for the questions that were offered to guide the discussion during the webinar. The link to access to the meeting will be forwarded to families on the morning of the webinar and I look forward to sharing with you our responses to the questions raised.

Student online learning commences tomorrow, Wednesday October 6, with a compulsory online Year meeting to start the day at 8.40am. Throughout the Student Learning Conferences on October 6 and 7 there will be no live lessons on Microsoft Teams. Students will learn independently and the work that they are required to complete will be available on the College Portal. On Friday we will recommence the Microsoft Teams meetings in each lesson following the same format as last term. We are preparing to deliver a revision program which will incorporate the feedback we have received from students about the HSC Examinations and will include a variety of strategies incorporating online delivery, face-to-face classes, seminars and private study time. This program will be shared with students in the coming days.





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Some students have studied courses which do not require them to sit an HSC Examination, or the examination is optional and only required if the course is to be used in the calculation of an ATAR. Students who have studied courses in which a final examination is not a requirement for the completion of the HSC are not required to attend future lessons. We ask that these students do however attend the first online lesson timetabled for the term in these courses and the first day of face-to-face lessons on Monday October 18, as teachers would like the opportunity to meet with them in person for one last time to congratulate them on their achievements and wish them well for the future. An overview outlining lesson attendance requirements of each course appears below. Students studying courses at St Joseph's are asked to seek advice from their teacher regarding the revision program for the course. Teachers are also completing the Trial HSC Reports which will be made available on the College Portal in the coming weeks.

We look forward to welcoming the students back to learning on-campus and encourage them to continue to engage in their learning to the best of their ability until we return.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 4321 6400, or at [principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au](mailto:principal@stedwards.nsw.edu.au) if you have any questions or would like to discuss the information outlined in this letter.

Yours sincerely

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College Principal



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<b>Category A Courses</b> <b>Attendance and completion of HSC Examination required</b>	<b>Optional Attendance</b> <b>HSC Examination required for ATAR Calculation</b>
Biology Business Studies Chemistry Drama Economics Engineering Studies English Extension 1 English Advanced English Standard Food Technology French Continuers History Extension History Modern Industrial Technology Multimedia Industrial Technology Timber Information Processes and Technology Investigating Science Legal Studies Mathematics Advanced Mathematics Extension 1 Maths Extension 2 Music 1 PDHPE Physics Science Extension Studies of Religion Studies of Religion 2 Visual Arts	Construction English Studies Entertainment Financial Services Hospitality Mathematics Standard 1  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Attendance not required-</b> <b>No HSC Examination</b></div> Furnishings Metals and Engineering Screen and Media Sport Coaching Studies of Catholic Thought  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Course Studied at St Joseph's</b> <b>Seek advice from teacher</b></div> Business Services Society and Culture