



5 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of students in Years 7-10

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 until we return to face-to-face teaching mid-way through the term.

The NSW Government announced last week a revised plan for the return of students to on-campus learning, for one week earlier than what was initially planned. The staggered return of students 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 online Parent Information Evening tonight at 6.30pm, we will cover the 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 this evening. The following link, [Years 7-10 Information Evening](#) provides access to the meeting and I look forward to sharing with you our responses to the questions raised. Other topics to be covered in the webinar include student learning and assessment, communication with families regarding student learning, student wellbeing and time set aside for additional questions from families.

At the end of last term, student Learning Reflections were uploaded to the College Portal and I hope that students, parents and carers have taken the time to discuss the learnings from Term 3. These reflections will be used to guide the conversations at the Learning Conferences over the next two days. 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. This will continue until the commencement of face-to-face lessons in line with the revised dates.





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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 if you have any questions or would like to discuss the information outlined in this letter.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bonnici
College Principal



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