

# Randwick Boys' High School

Guiding Young Men to Success

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Issue 10

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03 April 2020

## Parent update – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Good afternoon all students and parents.

I hope you are all well and healthy during these interesting times. As this is the last newsletter for Term 1, 2020, I have included many links and snippets from DE and Health that have been sent to school this week. As this is an ever-changing situation, it is difficult to update the school community on a regular basis. We may receive information on a particular day and then an update a day later.

This is especially so when it comes to the mode of delivery for Distance Learning. All of our staff are posting homework in SEN-TRAL. Students and parents should be accessing day to day lessons, long term projects and assessments that have been uploaded under the homework tab. Some of our staff have been investigating ZOOM as a means of communication. Others are trialling TEAMS and others Google classroom. I can inform you all that, only recently, the Department of education has endorsed ZOOM, TEAMS and Google classroom but with restrictions. Google hangout IS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CANNOT BE USED BY STAFF AND STUDENTS TO COMMUNICATE. Should we receive updated advice from the Department of Education regarding the mode of delivery, we will inform staff, students and parents.

I am so very impressed with how many students are completing their work electronically and sending it back to their teachers. I am very proud of every one of our students who have been doing so. The staff and I expect all students to be doing this and urge all parents to ensure that their son is accessing his learning, completing the work and sending it back for teacher correction. I am also fully aware that students need their breaks from learning. I encourage students to follow their usual timetables and access the mode of delivery that is being used by their teachers. They also need to remember to step away from their learning for regular breaks.

My advice would be:

45 minute lesson, 5 minute break (just as they would when moving from one class to the next)

45 minute lesson  
20 minute recess

45 minute lesson, 5 minute break (just as they would when moving from one class to the next)

45 minute lesson  
40 minute lunch break

45 minute lesson, 5 minute break (just as they would when moving from one class to the next)

45 minute lesson

This will mirror the length of learning and a usual school day.

I realise that students should also have practical lessons (Music, Visual Art, PDHPE). These are obviously more difficult to coordinate. I am sure the Visual Art and Music teachers have organised some sort of practical activity. PDHPE – will give advice regarding the practical component of courses.

Year 12 students, in particular, need to remember that no student will be disadvantaged. Year 12 are currently completing their assessments remotely. They have adapted so very well to the new method of assessment. They receive their question/s at a particular time, then have a set time to complete and send back to their teacher. The assessment block has taken place this week and will conclude next Thursday (last day of Term 1). The only two subjects not assessed at this time are all levels of Mathematics and all Science Subjects (Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences). We have received numerous messages of support in continuing with the Year 12 assessments. We decided to do so due to the fact the students had already prepared and need normality in their lives during these testing (pardon the pun) times! Well done to all Year 12 students, their teachers and their parents/guardians.

I wish all students, staff and parents/guardians a happy and healthy holiday. Please ensure you all adhere to the restrictions that are in place for the good of all in our community. We all have a part to play in this and need to ensure the unusual measures are followed. Look after yourselves and each other.

Lastly, it is so inspiring, refreshing and appreciated when so many parents and students have taken the time to email the school and praise the efforts of our teaching staff. Our staff have adapted to these new times and this new method of delivery, very quickly. They are working hard each day to convert their usual lessons to online lessons so that all students can continue their distance learning. They are marking work that has been returned, editing drafts etc and are eager to meet the educational and wellbeing needs of all our students, as they usually do at school.

Thank you all and take care.

Lance Raskall - Principal

A new department hub is now live, to find all information in relation to COVID-19

Public-facing hub - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

Quick links to help people find the info they want including all the ECE stuff

FAQs for parents and the community

News updates

Wider Government updates – via links

[For the wider school community](#)

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

## Department of Education updates:

[Information for parents and the wider community](#)

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

[Response to COVID-19 Posters](#) (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>) via the Department's Infection Control webpage

- [Learning from home](#) (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home>) Hub on the Department's website provides information and resources for teachers and parents to support students learning from home P -12.

[Hygiene – Hand washing and gloving demonstration video](#)

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/inside-the-department/health-and-safety/risk-management/infection-control/hygiene->

Requests for individual counselling sessions will continue as usual. Students or families can contact the school or speak to their teacher. The learning and support team in each school should also continue the usual referral process to the school counsellor.

Support for students with disabilities: [parents](#) (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>)

UAC Engagement Team available to answer queries: [ce@uac.edu.au](mailto:ce@uac.edu.au)  
[2020 HSC is going ahead](https://beta.dec.nsw.gov.au/schoolbiz/issues/year-2020-issue10/2020-hsc-is-going-ahead) (<https://beta.dec.nsw.gov.au/schoolbiz/issues/year-2020-issue10/2020-hsc-is-going-ahead>)

[CoVid-19 Resources \(NSW Health\)](#) (<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>)

[CoVid-19 Resources \(NSW Health\) - Different Languages](#)  
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/covid-19-resources.aspx>

## Learning from Home website

Please continue to encourage staff to access the [Learning from Home](#) (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home>) link regularly. There are new support materials and resources being added frequently on this site.

Resources to support the wellbeing of students, staff and families are currently being updated.

## eSafety Commissioner – 1st April

[Open letter to Australia's parents and carers](#) (<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/covid-19/letter-parents-carers>)

In April and May we will be running live [parent webinars](#) (<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>)

1. Keeping safe and healthy online – for ages 7-12 years
2. Keeping your sanity and supporting your kids online – for parents and carers
3. My House, My Rules - for parents/carers and children to participate together

## NESA UPDATE: Thursday 2nd April

Yesterday the NESA COVID-19 Response Committee met to consider a number of key issues about the 2020 HSC.

First and foremost and as confirmed last week, students will have the opportunity to receive their HSC credential this year.

Students will be able to continue with the next chapter of their lives, whether that's university, an apprenticeship or TAFE in 2021.

Effective immediately the Committee agreed to:

give Principals and system authorities the power to determine the number, type and weighting of tasks for Year 11 school based assessment, in line with the decision communicated last week for HSC students

lift the requirement for VET students to undertake NESA mandated work placements

cancel mandatory group performance exam in Drama and the mandatory ensemble performance exam in Music Extension

modify other performance exams that breach social distancing requirements.

Detailed advice about today's decisions will be available on the NESA website early next week.

We understand that these are challenging times and you have a number of questions. We will continue to answer these via the [COVID-19 advice page](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/news/novel-coronavirus). (https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/news/novel-coronavirus) NESA News will continue to be our main channel for updates, so please keep an eye on your inbox.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Martin  
Chief Executive Officer

NESA

#### COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1

Week 11	Week B /Events
Monday 06 April	Year 12 Assessment Tasks continuing online
Thursday 09 April	Year 12 Assessment Tasks online end Last day of Term 1

#### COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 2

Week 1	Week A/Events
Monday 27 April	School Development Day School resumes for all staff
Tuesday 28 April	School is due to resume for all students

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