



Sarah Redfern High School

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Thursday 16 September, 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

The end of Term 3 has been a busy one for our school and others throughout the state. We're happy to say that together we made it through what has been a constantly-changing and sometimes difficult Term. We could not have done it without the commitment from all of our families who supported learning from home, and from our fantastic teaching and school staff. I want to thank you all for your efforts to continue to keep our school community safe – I know everyone has faced different challenges at different times through the Term. You will be receiving an Interim Remote Learning Report for your child via email over the coming week. If you have a new email address or are unsure whether your contact details are up to date, please contact our office.

I hope everyone enjoys a break over the holidays and is looking forward to the COVID-safe return to school sites that we are planning for in Term 4. Please read through the following updates before the start of the school holidays and don't hesitate to reach out for support or with any questions.

Return to school roadmap for Term 4

At the moment, our schools remains within an identified LGA and this means that we are at Level 4+ operations; this means that no students are on site. In the event that advice changes and we are no longer operating under stay-at-home rules or our operation level changes, we will contact families immediately via our website, social media platforms and direct parent email. You may hear of schools in other LGAs where students will return gradually to face-to-face learning with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe Level 3 plus settings on school sites in the following order from Monday 25 October; however, this is not yet applicable to our school community as we are not yet at Level 3 plus operations.

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order and additional advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent advice on the Department's Advice for families page (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>).

Information for HSC students and their families

Congratulations to our HSC and Year 12 students! You've nearly made it to the end of a unique and very tough year. Your resilience and work ethic through this time are to be admired. The official last day for Year 12 is this Friday 17 September 2021; however, students will be supported up until their exams.

Here's some further information about what's happening for our Year 12 cohort in the next few weeks:

- While the last official day for Year 12 is Friday 17th September, we will continue to support our students
- The remote timetable for Year 12 will continue in Term 4 with teachers available for students during the scheduled live check-in times (see below timetable). These sessions are an opportunity for students to ask questions and for the teacher to provide any feedback on revision activities that may have been posted.
- Your child's teachers may provide links to previous HSC questions and exam papers or other revision resources that student can complete or they can be run as a seminar.
- This timetable will be in effect from Tuesday October 5 until we move from Level 4+ within the DoE.
- HSC exams will proceed for all students from 9 November 2021 in a COVID-safe way, in line with NSW Health advice. Refer to the HSC exam timetable here (<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/key-dates-exam-timetables/hsc-written-exam-timetable>).

Term 4 | Year 12 Remote Learning Support Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Roll Call Check in		
Session 1 9-9.40	Line 4 Live check in	Line 5 Live Check in	Independent Study	Independent Study	Independent Study
Session 2 9.40-10.20	Independent Study	Independent Study	Independent Study	Line 6 Live Check in	Line 3 Live Check in
Break					
Session 3 11-11.40	Line 2 Live Check in	Line 1 Live Check in	Line 4 Live Check in	Line 5 Live Check in	Independent Study
Session 4 11.40-12.20	Independent Study	Independent Study	Independent Study	Independent Study	Independent Study
Break					
Session 5 1-1.40	Line 6 Live Check in	Line 3 Live Check in	Line 2 Live Check in	Line 1 Live Check in	Independent study
Session 6 1.40-2.30	Independent study	Independent study	Independent study	Independent study	Independent study

Key:					
LINE 1	English Advanced	LINE 2	IT Timber	LINE 3	Mathematics Standard 1
	English Standard		IT Multimedia		Mathematics Standard 2
	English Studies		Mathematics Advanced		Business Studies
	English EALD		Mathematics Standard 1		Legal Studies
			Mathematics Standard 2		Hospitality
LINE 4	PDHPE	LINE 5	Music	LINE 6	Biology
	Society and Culture		Chemistry		Aboriginal Studies
	Physics		Modern History		Construction
	Work Studies		SLR		CAFS
			Visual Arts		Geography
			Investigating Science		

Vaccinations for students aged 12 years and over

Young people aged 12 years and over are now also eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. You can book in your children for Pfizer now, or Moderna from Monday 20 September. Vaccination appointments are available at more than 3,000 locations across NSW, including GPs and pharmacies. More appointments will become available as supply increases, so keep checking for new appointments in coming weeks.

Learning from Home, Term 4

For all our families supporting their children learning from home, we will continue to utilise our Google Classrooms platform as well as upload learning documents to our school-developed Learning from Home Hub which is available on our school website. There are also excellent resources available on the Department's Learning from Home page, with a wide range of curriculum-based activities to further support your child's learning (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home>).

Remote Learning Feedback

We would like to thank our school community for engaging in our recent Remote Learning Check-in. The survey responses from our students, staff and families have provided us with a really rich feedback to reflect upon prior to the next term. Here are some general observations we'd like to share:

- No one is currently at their best; individuals across all responses indicated a frustration with the isolation at home and noted the struggle to balance work and family life
- Wellbeing initiatives shared online, such as competitions, care calls and tech-free days, are greatly appreciated as a connection point; however, there is a consensus that we'd like to build upon further opportunities to connect with and see teachers and students even more
- While the workload is generally manageable on Google Classrooms, we can streamline work even further with greater communication and more diversity in work where possible. Opportunities to see and hear teachers talk through the learning materials would be helpful.

As a result, our team are currently working to improve the remote learning experience in Term 4. We are currently finalising further themed days that will see students off their regular digital classrooms and completing hands-on activities, ideally outside and away from screens at least once per week. We are also exploring the possibility of introducing further opportunities for teachers and students to connect on video outside of our senior years; however, it is essential that we develop strict protocols to maintain privacy for our students and teachers before we scale to junior year groups.

Thank you again for your continued understanding and support. We hope you and your family enjoy a safe and very well-deserved break over the holidays. Please take some time over the break to check out the Department's wellbeing resources for students and families (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/wellbeing-for-students-and-families>). You'll find useful tools for mental health and Term 4 preparation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for Term 4 or if you have any concerns about the return to school. While we will not be on site during the two week holiday period (18/9 – 4/10), we will be accessible at sarahredfe-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au. I will be in touch again soon with further information and any updates for you and your children. In the meantime, we encourage you to continue to keep connected via our website, facebook and instagram.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Clowry', written in a cursive style.

Lyndy Clowry
Principal