



Dear Parents/Carers

## **Welcome**

Welcome to the commencement of the 2021 school year. I hope that you and your families have had a relaxing and safe time during the Christmas break. We are looking forward to all of the College students returning on Monday 1 February for the start of what will be a productive school year.

On Monday, as students arrive on campus, Year 8 to 12 students will be able to view where their Homeroom is located on lists that will be displayed about the College, and then move to their Homerooms at 8.45am.

List locations are:

- Year 8: Purple Block - rooms 2 and 3
- Year 9: Arts Block - Art 2
- Year 10: Library
- Year 11: Orange Block - room 1 or Science Block GLA 5
- Year 12: English Block – GLA 2
- Year 9 to 12 ACCESS: ACCESS Block - GLA 1
- Year 7 to 10 Education Support : Education Support Block - GLA 3

Year 7 students will be directed to Quadrangle A on the Illawarra campus for their welcome and introduction to their Homeroom Teachers. Staff will be assisting students to locate their Homerooms prior to the commencement of Homeroom at 8.45am.

## **SEQTA and Student Timetables**

Due to an upgrade to the I.T. system over the holidays, existing SEQTA users would not have been able to access current timetable information. It is anticipated that SEQTA Learn and SEQTA Engage will be available to students and parents from Monday morning.

Students will be issued with new login details with their timetables during Homeroom. Parents will be able to access SEQTA Engage using existing login details. For parents who do not have access to SEQTA Engage, a welcome email from SEQTA will be sent to the email address that we have for you on file. This will provide instructions on how to create your SEQTA account.

## **Year 7 Parent/Carer Evening Thursday 11 February 2021 (Week 2 Term 1)**

Year 7 parents/carers and students are invited to attend a welcome evening on Thursday 11 February, commencing at 5.30pm. The evening is to provide parents/carers of year 7 students with an opportunity to visit the College and meet the Year 7 Homeroom Teachers, Year Coordinator and Student Services staff. The evening will commence with a sausage sizzle from 5.30pm, introductions at 6.00pm and then an opportunity to tour the Illawarra campus. Further information regarding the evening will be provided once school has commenced next week. We look forward to a relaxed and enjoyable evening.

## **College Uniform Supplies**

We have been informed by our uniform suppliers that due to COVID restrictions affecting shipping and exports at various ports, there is currently a delay in the delivery of orders to many schools, including ours.

We are anticipating that we will receive our ordered uniform items within a couple of weeks of school commencing. Due to our current limited stock, we need to restrict new sales to two polo tops per student; however, we will accept orders for additional tops which will be allocated from the shipment once it arrives.

If you have been unable to purchase uniforms from our uniform shop due to your child's size not being available, your child can wear their sports uniform, or an alternative blue top (without logo's etc on the top) until our new stock arrives. Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

## **COVID – 19 Impact**

The Government of Western Australia continues the phase 4 COVID-19 management requirements for schools for the commencement of the 2021 school year.

As such, we will be commencing the year with a full range of normal operations, activities and events. COVID-19 management practices that will be in place include:

- The extra cleaning and hygiene practices implemented last year continue;
- Social distancing measures for visiting parents and community members also continue;
- Students and staff are still reminded to wash and sanitise hands regularly;
- Parents/carers are able to visit the College via the administration office.

Parents/carers are reminded that if your child or children are sick with seasonal cold or flu, please keep them at home. This is in line with standard practice and continues to be an important requirement at this time.

## **Student Mobile Phones**

Students have worked well throughout last year to keep their mobile phones, electronic devices and earphones/buds **'off and away all day'**. We are very appreciative of the efforts made by the majority of students to ensure they adhere to this requirement. As a reminder, ***this requirement is now Government policy for all Public secondary schools.***

At the commencement of the 2021 school year we will be tightening this process further to ensure all students are adhering to this policy requirement. From January 2021, students will be informed that if they use their mobile phone, electronic devices or earphones/buds at school, they will have them confiscated.

They will not be warned, but will be politely asked to hand over the device and/or earbuds. Students will be able to collect their phones/electronic devices/earbuds at the end of the school day. If students continue to repeatedly use their devices, parents/carers will be asked to collect these from the College. Students will still be able to purchase items from the canteen using their mobile phones, unless they have been confiscated.

Students have now had 12 months to become familiar with this Policy and what the implementation of it will mean to them while on site at the College. We anticipate that students will develop the appropriate good habits very quickly. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## **Office Hours**

A reminder to parents/carers that the public office hours for the College are between 8.00am and 3.30pm, Monday to Friday. Parents/carers are still welcome to make arrangements to meet with staff by calling the College on 9262 7777.

The Cassowary Administration office has moved to the Resource Centre (now known as the Cassowary Administration Resource Centre). The Deputy Principal Year 10 to 12, Mr Pileggi, will be located in this centre. Students, parents and visitors who access the College through the Cassowary campus now must sign in through the Cassowary Administration Resource Centre.

Yours sincerely,

Leigh Cottrill, Principal

Friday 29 January 2021