



Friday 27th August

Dear Parents and Carers

Stay at home orders will continue across all of NSW until **midnight Friday 10th September**.

Students will continue remote learning from home from **Monday 30th August - Friday 10th September** (Week 8B and Week 9A timetable).

The majority of students are positively engaging with their remote learning lessons and are demonstrating increased independent learning skills. Students should contact their teachers on the online learning platforms if they are having any troubles or if they have questions, as the first port of call for help.

Parents can also contact the school with any concerns and we will get messages to staff very quickly to ensure that student needs are addressed. Early communication is key to student's continued learning and wellbeing.

Students and staff have demonstrated grit, determination and resilience over the past two weeks as they have managed learning and teaching from home. Well done to you all. Thank you to all the parents and carers for your ongoing support of your children and the school in these challenging times.

Every teacher will continue to have their designated student work for the week on their classroom learning platform each Monday. All work should be completed and submitted by no later than Friday. Staff will be providing explicit feedback on the work submitted.

Year 7-10 students are requested to continue to log into their timetabled classroom for periods 1 and 2, where explicit teaching will again take place. Period by period rolls for these lessons will be marked for student attendance. Periods 3-6 students are expected to continue working on the learning activities provided by their teachers and regularly submit work as they complete it. Their teachers will be available online during their other timetabled lessons to answer students' questions, mark work, provide feedback and to make follow up calls to parents and carers of students not engaging in the learning.

Year 11 students, during week 8B, are expected to log into each of their timetabled lessons where explicit instructions about the weeks teaching and learning will occur. Revision for upcoming exams will be the key focus in these lessons so students are strongly encouraged to engage with their teachers, complete tasks and get feedback from their teachers. Rolls will be marked for senior student attendance.

After much consideration, and having listened to students and staff, we believe it is imperative that our Year 11 students sit their exams, which will be hosted electronically in week 9 Term 3. Detailed information will be sent to Year 11 students early next week.

Year 12 students are expected to continue to log into their timetabled lessons where explicit instructions about the weeks teaching and learning will occur. Rolls will be marked for senior student attendance.

Information regarding the HSC and HSC Advice will continue to be updated and sent to Year 12 students via their NESA Schools Online accounts and the Year 12 Google Classroom.

NESA is working to **reschedule HSC exams to start on 9 November 2021** in line with today's announcement by the Premier and Minister for Education. The updated start date means HSC results will be released in mid-January. NESA will publish a revised exam timetable in early September. NESA will be emailing this information to students this afternoon.

COVID-safe HSC exams - NESAs are continuing to work very closely with NSW Health and the school sectors to develop comprehensive COVID-safe protocols for running the HSC exams. NESAs will be emailing this information to students this afternoon.

Families who need to borrow a **CHS Laptop** should contact the school on 69422711 so we can make this happen in an orderly and COVID safe manner. We have a limited number of computers remaining. We also have dongles for those students who do not have internet access that can be borrowed.

Students onsite at CHS will have *very minimal supervision*. They will be expected to work independently on the work provided by their teachers on the remote learning platforms for all of their classes (just like they would do at home). They will need to wear a mask at all times and abide by all COVID safe practices. They should be in full school uniform. They must bring their own recess and lunch. They are not to leave the school grounds.

We continue to be working under the NSW Department of Education Level 4 and Level 4 Plus COVID - Safe School Operation conditions which include:

Minimal students and staff onsite; learning from home encouraged, schools are open to families who need it.

Overview

- Schools operate learning from home, with stricter guidance for students and staff on-site
- Schools are actively encouraged to further minimise student's attendance with the support of increased community messaging
- Schools remain open with absolute minimum of staff – 2 staff are required on site for safety reasons, and only as many additional staff as required to maintain supervision and to meet immediate needs of the school. If a school requires more than 5 staff members to attend, they must consult with their Director, Educational Leadership
- Families are encouraged to keep their children at home, with no student to be turned away
- Schools activate plans to support continuity of education for all students learning from home

Where students and staff are at school, the following guidelines apply:

- No community use; No canteens; No assemblies; No excursions
- **While on school sites, masks or face coverings are required for all staff, and all students in Year 7 and above**

A team of staff will again be contacting all families in the coming weeks to check in on the wellbeing of all students. If you have changed your phone number or residential address recently please be sure to contact the school so we can update this information.

Our School Psychologist, Sarah Zimmerman, is available to support our students. Please contact the school so we can organise this support with you.

The health and wellbeing of our students remains a top priority. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you require our assistance in any way.

A huge shout out to our whole school community for keeping student numbers very low onsite which ultimately is protecting and keeping our students and staff safe.

I really do hope to see all our students back at school in week 10.

Take care, stay safe and be kind to one another. We will get through this challenge, together.

Regards
Mrs Daly
Principal Cootamundra High School