



From the Principal's Desk – Term 3 Week 2 2021 Learning from Home Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

The past week has provided interesting insights about the educational environment that COVID-19 has again presented to us. However, as we continue to refine and improve our student learning experiences, over the weekend there were several announcements made by the NSW Premier and the NSW Department of Education that effected our school operations.

I also know that our students and staff have worked hard for the HSC and I would like to provide information from the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and provide information about our on-going plans, given current advice.

General Advice on School Assessment - Year 7-12:

- Assessment tasks scheduled in Term 3 will go ahead as planned (refer to Year 7-12 Assessment Procedures and Policy).
- Following NESA guidelines, students will be provided with adequate written notice of any changes in assessment tasks or scheduling.

Year 12 Trial HSC Examinations:

Given current health advice the Trial HSC Examinations remain scheduled for Weeks 5 and 6 of Term 3 - Monday 9 August to Thursday 19 August 2021. Students will be advised of any changes in the trial examinations scheduling via their Google Classroom.

HSC Projects, Body of Works and Performances:

Unfortunately, due to Department of Education operational guidelines for schools, onsite support in Music, Visual Arts and Industrial Technology – Timber is not currently available for students. The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) is meeting this week and we hope to receive advice on major works in these courses. Students are advised to keep working on their major works at home, if possible.

2021-2022 Mandatory VET Work Placement:

Students undertaking VET courses in 2021 will remain eligible for the Preliminary or HSC credit units if unable to complete work placement due to the direct impact of COVID-19. Students commencing a VET course in 2021 (and continuing the course in 2022) that has a mandatory work placement requirement, will meet the course requirement if they complete 35 hours of work placement. It is anticipated that the placement could be completed later in 2021, or in 2022.

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COVID Illness and Misadventure:

Arrangements are in place to ensure no student is disadvantaged by COVID restrictions. The [COVID illness and misadventure process](#) is available to students who experience a COVID-related event at the time of an HSC exam.

The key messages from NESAs for all HSC students are that:

- Processes are in place to ensure your hard work is rewarded.
- No exam is more important than your wellbeing.
- Keep learning and submitting assessments.
- Keep preparing for exams.
- Follow NSW Health advice.

I encourage all students to continue to fully engage with online learning to ensure that they develop and complete all HSC related content and skills. Students should seek the support of their teachers as needed and use study time effectively to prepare for the Trial HSC Examinations and the HSC Examinations.

Staff Vaccination Program:

School staff in the Liverpool, Fairfield and Canterbury-Bankstown areas have been prioritised for vaccination. Teachers will endeavour to secure a vaccination time outside of core teaching hours. Please be aware that some teachers may not be able to secure a time outside of teaching hours. If a teacher is unavailable for on-line learning, work will be posted on Google Classroom and students notified.

Contacting the school:

Schools have been asked to significantly restrict the number of staff on site. As a result, we will have limited office staff at school.

As I have indicated previously, please continue to check the various online communications, including the High School (<https://miller-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>) and Intensive English Centre (<https://milleriec.schools.nsw.gov.au/>) websites, MTHS and IEC Facebook pages and School Stream as there will be constant updates.

We are also contactable through our email - miller-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or Miller IEC at miller-i.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

As a school we are very proud of our well-structured and successful online teaching and learning program and I value highly the significant investment from families in working with your children to successfully access learning from home. I'm also eternally grateful for the way our teaching and non-teaching staff have supported their student's to seamlessly transition to online learning, with minimal notice.

We will continue to be in regular contact to provide information and updates. Keep safe, take care.

Dr Ken Edge
(Principal)