



From the Principal's Desk – Term 4 Week 1 2021

As we begin term 4, I hope despite the stay-at-home orders, you and your families were able to explore other interests as well as renew energy in preparation for another term of learning.

On the 30 September the NSW Premier announced that schools would be able to welcome students back to face-to-face learning under a revised schedule. An earlier return than expected is invaluable as we reconnect with each other, our students, and staff.

However, as our school is in an LGA that is still under stay-at-home rules we will continue to learn from home for the start Term 4. It is important that you continue to keep your children home if you are able to work from home.

While we are planning for our return to face-to-face learning and our teachers are completing their COVID-19 vaccinations there will only be minimal supervision for students on site and all students will be provided with the same work as they would be completing at home.

What will Term 4 look like?

Year 12 – 2021 HSC

Term 4 Weeks 1-2

- Level 4 setting.
- **Student Study Bubble** – details to be advised.
- On-line learning continues.
- Classroom teachers will post on Google Classroom a revised lesson program to support curriculum revision, examination preparation and wellbeing support.
- New content will **NOT** be introduced.

Term 4 Weeks 3-5

- Level 3 Plus setting.
- Full-time access to school and teachers
- Cohort model adopted across the school to support a safe learning environment for students and staff.
- **NO** online learning.
- Curriculum revision and examination preparation continues.
- Expectation that all students will continue to attend scheduled classes.

Note:

- Official attendance of Year 12 students will not be recorded during Weeks 1-5.
- HSC Examinations commence Tuesday 9 November, finishing Friday 3 December under COVID-19 safe HSC written examination protocols.

Year 12 – 2022 HSC

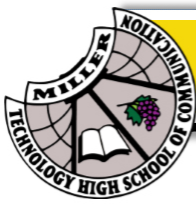
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The following procedures support the commencement of the 2022 HSC course in Term 4 2021.

Term 4 Weeks 1-3

- Students will continue on-line learning.
- Following normal school timetable.
- **NO** catch-up periods, with 9 periods per cycle.
- To meet HSC course requirements, students need to attend all scheduled classes.

Term 4 Week 4

- Level 3 Plus setting.
- Full-time access to school and teachers.
- Cohort model adopted across the school to support a safe learning environment for students and staff.
- **NO** online learning.

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10

Term 4 Weeks 1-4

- Students to continue on-line learning.

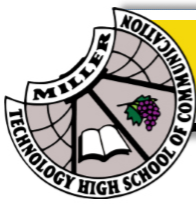
Term 4 Week 5

- Full-time access to school and teachers
- Level 3 Plus setting.
- Cohort model adopted across the school to support a safe learning environment for students and staff.
- **NO** online learning.

Students in the Intensive English Centre and Support Unit will return to school in line with their year group and based on needs.

For those families who have siblings across year groups I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back on site. But we do need this time to prepare our school and operations for having all our students back so it's essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

However, 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 of Education's [Advice for Families page](#) (click on link).



NAPLAN 2021

Towards the end of last term, we received the 2021 NAPLAN reports for Year 7 and 9 students who undertook the assessment. These reports have been mailed to the home addresses registered with the school.

“The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment that has been part of the school calendar since 2008 for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN tests skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy.

This NAPLAN data, along with Best Start and Check-In Assessment data is regularly used to support student learning. Importantly, the data informs best practices in our classrooms that have led to substantial growth and gains in Miller student’s levels of literacy and numeracy.

An NAPLAN information session is proposed towards the end of term either through a zoom session or when, given NSW Health advice parents/carers are again able to attend school.

If you have any questions relating to your child’s NAPLAN report or have not received the report, please contact the high school’s main office.

SRC Poster Competition

The pandemic with learning from home has brought many challenges for students. The Student Representative Council’s On-line Learning Competition was another way students could express their views and experience of these challenges.

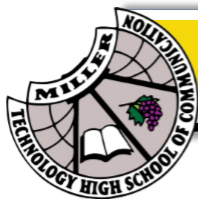
The competition was a huge success with over 40 entries, ranging from artworks, videos, memes, short stories, and personal reflections. Ms Vukic (SRC co-ordinator) found it very difficult to decide the winners as there were so many outstanding submissions. Well-done to each of the students who took time to submit an entry, and congratulations to the following prize winners.

Yousef Al Masri (Year 7 - Drawing)
Ebony Leatigaga (Year 8 - Video)
Yasem Al Mohamad (Year 8 - Collage drawing)
Rachel Walter - (Year 10- Meme)
Aaqilah Ali - (Year 10 - Informative Video)
Sharbel Rezk - (Year 11- Meme)

Prizes are E-gift cards, which will be emailed to the winners.

Competition for Families - Life During Lockdown

Being in lockdown has changed everyone’s lives! Our families have experienced these changes and we would like you to share these with others through a Family Competition.



In entering the competition, your task will be to create a text that best describes your family's life experiences during lockdown. It will be a fun event for all with many text types to choose from, and prizes for the most creative and inspirational entries.

The competition closing date is 18 October. Further information can be found on the Miller webpage, Facebook and in School Stream.

Vaccinations for students aged 12 years and over

Young people aged 12 years and over are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. You can [book in your children for Pfizer now, or Moderna](#) (click on link) where there is availability indicated.

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.

Department of Education Wellbeing Resources

Please take some time to check out the DoE [Wellbeing Resources for Students and Families](#) (click on link). You will find useful tools for mental health and for Term 4 preparation. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for the return to face-to-face learning or if you have any concerns about the return to school.

Concluding comment

I am very proud of our community with spring vacation period a time away from our everyday tasks, that is remarkably restorative. I just took a trip to your future in my time machine and as always, I am confident that students and staff will have renewed enthusiasm and vigour for what will be a huge term ahead.

As previously indicated, we are spending the first week of Term 4 finalising our COVID-safe plans for a return to face-to-face learning. I ask each family to give us this time as we need to complete our cohort planning for your child's safe return. I hope to share these plans with you in the coming week.

Thank you again for your understanding and support during what is going to be both an exciting, but also an anxious time.

If you have any immediate needs, please do not hesitate to contact the main High School office (Office Hours 8.30am-3.00pm).

Dr Ken Edge
(Principal)