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Macquarie Grammar School Limited
ACN 141 160 483
CRICOS Provider Code 03330B

Dear Parents, Guardians, Homestay Hosts and Students,

Re: School Arrangements for Monday 16th – 27th August, 2021

Years 7 to 12 Continue with Online Learning up to Friday 27th August

Out of necessity and in the best interests of the health and well-being of all our students from Years 7 to 12 online learning will continue up to Friday 27th of August, at this stage. During the lockdown our Year 12 students have been able to attend school, interact and engage with their teachers in creating their major works. This has been a very stressful time for our Year 12 students due to the uncertainty of what lies ahead, but our teachers have supported our students throughout and have continued with the curriculum regardless of the lockdown, in readiness for the Trial and HSC Examinations. It is important that our students both domestic and international are given every opportunity to sit for the Trial Examinations, as they are three (3) hours in duration. The students will be tested on all of the content in the course, they will learn to pace themselves to complete the examination paper within the given timeframe, it also gives students every opportunity to improve their overall assessment mark and performance. In addition, it provides teachers with useful evaluative feedback for revision and replicates the HSC Examination procedures and processes. Therefore, the Trial HSC Examinations are an important and integral part of their assessment and will be postponed for two weeks, to commence on Monday 6th September. This will give our students additional preparation time for the Trial Examinations, which is a positive outcome. Over the next two weeks further announcements will be made by the NSW Government and the Department and Health and from the information provided at that time, this date may be revised.

The coronavirus infection rates in New South Wales are a concern for the NSW Government, but the NSW Chief Medical Officer, Dr Kerry Chant, has suggested that Year 12 students may return to school either at the end of August or in early September, as a large number of students have been vaccinated this week at the Qudos Bank Arena. Therefore, the online learning programme will continue for Years 7 to 12 until Friday 27th August and possibly beyond this date for Years 7 to 11 if the lockdown continues. The date for the Year 11 Winter Term 3 Examinations will remain as planned for Monday 6th September, but will be revised if the lockdown continues into September. All assessments for Years 7 to 10 will be done online.

All our students are our concern but especially, Year 12 and our HSC students. It is important that they have access to the school and their teachers during this lockdown period and the NSW Department of Health has advised that HSC students can attend school for a couple of hours under the direction of their teachers. Students will be notified by their teacher if they are required to attend school, as is currently the case, with the Year 12 Visual Arts class. Students in the twelve (12) LGA's of Greater Sydney that are currently in lockdown ***will be unable to attend*** but students

outside the twelve (12) LGA's will be expected to attend a designated lesson at school. Otherwise, Year 12 HSC lessons will continue online until 27th August. The situation will continue to be monitored during the lockdown period and if any further changes are announced by the NSW Government and the Department of Health, the school will inform the community.

By having some face-to-face lessons for Year 12, this will keep us in line with NSW Public Schools, Catholic and Independent schools, who are also having some face-to-face contact with their students at school, commencing from Monday 16th August.

From Monday 16th August to Friday 27th August Year 12 and HSC students when at school by invitation of their teacher, will follow the guidelines as outlined below:

1. will attend school as per the timetable, for up to two (2) hours.
2. no assemblies will be conducted.
3. hand sanitisers will be available to students in the common areas and classrooms.
4. Only three (3) students can be transported in a lift at any one time.
5. social distancing rules will be implemented that apply to schools.
6. face masks must be worn at all times, except when eating or drinking.
7. full school uniform must be worn including the blazer.

For Year 12 Only When Invited By Their Class Teacher

Please remind your child they must wear their full winter school uniform, including their blazer. Girls wear navy blue stockings (not tights or leggings). All students should be punctual for their lessons when invited to school and should bring with them, the required stationery and textbooks. Any non-school uniform items cannot be worn nor the sports uniform.

I wish to assure Year 12 students that the teachers and I are keen and willing to provide support and assistance throughout this lockdown period and while online. Mrs Sun and Mr Alexandru are available to provide advice on their studies and to assist them with their wellbeing. They can contact them through the Microsoft Teams portal or through the school.

Thank you to everyone for your co-operation and understanding and in making sure that our students are studying effectively from home. The teachers, support staff and I, are looking forward to having some limited face-to-face contact with Year 12 and HSC students from Monday 16th August to Friday 27th August and online lessons will continue for Years 7 to 12, until 27th August (unless otherwise announced).

Yours sincerely,



Mr Rekouniotis
PEO/Headmaster
Friday 16th August, 2021