



MOUNT ANNAN HIGH SCHOOL

248 WELLING DRIVE MOUNT ANNAN 2567

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Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

The NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian has announced today that although schools will remain open, it is recommended that all students remain at home for the next 3 weeks. It cannot be overemphasised that students who are remaining at home need to be at home and engaging in remote learning. Mount Annan High School teachers will be providing ongoing remote learning to students via the learning platforms that are currently being used with classes as displayed on our school website.

Students who need to attend school (eg. Parents are essential service workers or home situation unsuitable to be left unsupervised) will be allocated a desktop computer or laptop for the day from which they can access remote learning materials online. Students who attend school are expected to stay the whole day and will remain in the same seat in the same room each day they attend. Students who need to access materials and/or equipment related to major works can make arrangements with their teacher(s) to receive such support here at school.

The school canteen will not be operating for the remainder of the term. All students are to follow their current timetable of scheduled lessons to access learning materials online as uploaded by teachers during timetabled lessons. It is during the timetabled lesson that students will be able to post questions about learning activities to their teachers. Students should be online at the start of the timetabled lesson. We recommend that students working from home take a 5 minute break between each of their timetabled lessons along with recess and lunch breaks of 30 minutes. When using learning platforms, students need to be respectful of each other and of their teachers; not only in the way in which they post comments and questions, but also in allowing teachers a reasonable amount of time to respond to questions (see link below for further details about remote learning).

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home>

Teachers will be practising safe social distancing. For the majority of the school day, they will be working from an allocated classroom, workspace or remotely depending on their own personal situation. Teachers will be engaging with students remotely online during timetabled lessons and preparing work for future lessons during other times. Staff members with health conditions that could make them high-risk coronavirus patients will be allowed to work from home and/or deliver lessons online.

Attendance

Students who are staying at home and learning remotely will be granted explained leave from attending school.

Wellbeing

As students are now working online, staff working in student support roles have made a number of arrangements to ensure continuity of service. Staff in student support roles such as Year Advisers, Learning and Support Teachers, School Counsellors, Librarian, Careers Advisers and Head Teacher Wellbeing can be accessed via email (Note: this is different to the arrangement for contacting classroom teachers). Phone meetings may be arranged via email for more complex enquiries. It is important for you and your child to remember that teachers will be communicating with hundreds of children and their families and that your communications should be meaningful and short. You may also need to remind your child to be patient when waiting for support or feedback.

STRIVE, RESPECT and CO-OPERATE



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The learning at home website provides useful advice for students, parents and carers regarding working at home arrangements: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-from-home/advice-to-parents-and-carers>

The Headspace website provides a range of resources to support wellbeing during this time: <https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-cope-with-stress-related-to-covid-19/>

For enquiries regarding any of these services please contact Ms Rachael Alexander, Head Teacher Wellbeing alexander.rachael@det.nsw.edu.au

Assessment Tasks

All assessment schedules will need to be reviewed and adjusted given the current situation.

Term 1 tasks in stages 4 & 5 will be rescheduled for submission in term 2 at this stage.

Term 1 stage 6 tasks will proceed as scheduled where the task is:

- due between now and the end of term
- have already been issued and explained to students
- students have already been working on these tasks
- are of a nature that allows them to be submitted online

Any stage 6 tasks that were in-class assessments will be rescheduled and /or reconfigured for term 2

NOTE: NESA will be meeting tomorrow to discuss the impact of the current situation on HSC courses and assessment. I will pass this information on as soon as it becomes available via my regular email update.

I would like to again thank and acknowledge the dedication, commitment and hard work of the teaching and support staff at Mount Annan High School who are making adjustments and accommodations to their regular teaching practices due to the current COVID-19 uncertainty. I would also like to extend my thanks and gratitude to our students and parents who have been so supportive and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Bates
Principal

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