



Glenmore Parkway,
PO Box 8100, Glenmore Park NSW 2745

Phone: (02) 4733 0155 • Fax: (02) 4733 0984
Email: glenmorepk-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Return to School Update

From Week 4, 25 October Years 7-11 will return onsite for face to face classes. **Year 12 students** will have already negotiated with their teachers whether they will continue preparations for their Higher School Certificate examinations online or will attend on site in small groups to minimise mingling.

We are currently finalising COVID safe planning for each Year group and will communicate more specific information to parents and students regarding these changes shortly.

Vaccinations

Staff on site supporting the return of students will be fully vaccinated from the 18 October. From November 8 all staff, contractors and volunteers will need to be fully vaccinated to be onsite.

Ventilation

An audit has been conducted of the ventilation in all school areas. Having open and well ventilated areas reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 because infectious particles are diffused in the open air. The Department of Education will continue to work with NSW Health to provide us with advice and guidance on maintaining good ventilation in our school. Outdoor learning spaces will also be utilised when possible.

As our school was part of the Cooler Classrooms Schools Program our classrooms have sensors that monitor carbon dioxide levels and stale air. With these operating, ceiling fans on and windows open, we will be able to maximise air flow and ventilation to promote COVID safety in classrooms.

COVID Communication (just in case we get a positive case)

In the event of a confirmed COVID case quick and efficient communication will be essential. If there is a decision to close the school for a period of time we will be providing learning from home activities again until it is safe to return to face to face learning.

Please ensure your contact details are up to date with the school and monitor your email and SMS messages from the school as these will be our main form of communication in such events. We will also post messages in our Year Group Google Classrooms for students in the event of a school closure. The Department of Education also has a School Updates App that can be downloaded onto smart devices.

School Activities and Celebrations

Term 4 is usually a term that sees our school undertake many school-based activities and celebrations. These will remain on hold under the current NSW Health advice until we are advised otherwise. This includes large celebrations like assemblies, presentation days, graduations, performing arts and sports events. Whilst we have set a date for the Year 12 Graduation, it should

be noted that we will be complying with all health advice at that time in regards to whether we are able to hold such an event.

HSC Revision and Support

Year 12 students will continue to be supported by their teachers with revision and exam preparation up till their HSC exams. The classes have negotiated with their subject teachers whether this support will continue online or whether specific classes may meet onsite. Any onsite classes will need to comply with the strict social distancing measures, COVID safe hygiene measures and students and staff will be required to wear masks whilst onsite. The majority of classes have chosen to remain in an online delivery mode. Teachers will remain available to support students through Google Classroom during normal timetabled Year 12 lessons.

HSC Exams

We are currently putting in place and preparing our COVID safe arrangements for exams to minimise mixing between students. These plans include health advice regarding numbers of students in specific spaces and well-ventilated spaces. Mask wearing for examiners and students is compulsory. We are also currently confirming a back-up venue for the HSC should the school have to close due to a positive COVID case. More details will follow for Year 12 next week.

Orientation and Transition

Our Transition processes for Year 7 2022 are well underway. This is a truly exciting time for us all as the Year 6 students begin preparing for their transition to High School. Under current orders onsite orientations and transition programs are not currently allowed in person on school sites. Until we are advised differently our transition preparations and activities will be occurring virtually and we will have more information on this coming shortly.

Thank you all

I would like to thank our community for working through this with us, and for the great support shown during lockdown and the challenging time it has been. I also would like to acknowledge the great work done by staff in moving all our operations online- a considerable feat that required a significant amount of thought, organisation and effort. Having an enormously supportive community, willing to work with us and adapt rapidly has made it so much easier to keep our community safe.

We know some of our students thrived in the online learning space whilst others have really been challenged by this. We are excited to be welcoming our students back on the 25 October for our return to face to face teaching and learning and will be supporting all our students with any areas that need further addressing, be it in the wellbeing areas or the teaching and learning space.

Keep safe

Lisette Gorick
Principal