



# Strathfield Girls High School



30 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we move into our fourth week of lockdowns, COVID restrictions and remote learning, I would sincerely like to thank all of our school community, parents, students and staff for their resilience, positivity and commitment to support one another during these tough times we are facing.

I want to especially thank all the families who have continued to support our community by keeping their children at home to minimise movement in the community. If you are working from home, and your child is able to be educated from home, please continue to keep them at home. Please remember to keep in touch with the school to discuss any additional needs for your child or family to support you to continue learning from home.

As always, our school will remain open with minimal supervision on site to support those students who cannot be educated from home.

**From 16 August our school will also be open to support students completing their Year 12 study and HSC examinations in a COVID-safe way.** All other students and families will continue to be supported with learning from home online lessons, materials and resources.

At this stage, subject to updates from the Department of Education and NSW Health, we are planning to begin the Trial HSC Examinations in the week of 16 August 2021. We are still waiting on advice from the Department of Education and NSW Health in regards to what COVID-safe practices for HSC students, including the antigen testing expectations, will look like. However, from our experience in 2020, what worked well was limiting the number of students at school at any one period of time, ensuring that they were physically separated as possible, by using different entry and exit points and by using many spaces across the school as examination venues. **In the next 2 weeks, Year 12 students will receive a revised Trial HSC Timetable as well as COVID protocols for their return to school.**

I urge our Year 12 students to stay as positive as possible and to keep engaging with their teachers via online learning platforms. If they are keeping up-to-date with the work assigned and are responding to teacher feedback on work submitted, they should rest assured that they are on track for their Final HSC Examinations in October. After the experience of their Trial HSC examinations, our girls will understand the rigour of the HSC and will be able to engage with their teachers to assist in preparation for the HSC.

**Please check NSW Health websites and updates about the vaccination program for HSC students and decide as a family, what your next steps will be.**

While Year 12 and the HSC is at the forefront of our planning, I cannot fail to acknowledge the dedication and effort of all our Years 7 to 11 students and their families. Most of our students have been keeping current with their online learning and our teachers are very pleased with the work being completed. Parents are reminded to ensure that students keep on track and also have a good work-life balance.

Year 11 are urged to begin preparing for their Final Preliminary HSC Examination which will be scheduled as soon as students return to school at the end of Term 3 (hopefully!). This time next year, they will be ready to take on the HSC!

Year 7 students will be back on their usual timetables by next week. They are doing very well with their remote learning and are urged to continue with their good work ethic and follow in the footsteps of their older SGHS 'sisters' in Years 8, 9 and 10.

**Next week, we will publish a revised assessment schedule for Years 7 to 11.**

I'd like to end this letter with a special congratulations to all our teachers and students!

Education Week 2021 celebrated the theme of 'Lifelong learner'. The Department of Education described the theme as the celebration education as a continuous journey that starts before a child enters a formal educational setting, then progresses to primary and secondary school, and continues into adulthood as learners in a tertiary education setting, an apprenticeship or enter the workforce.

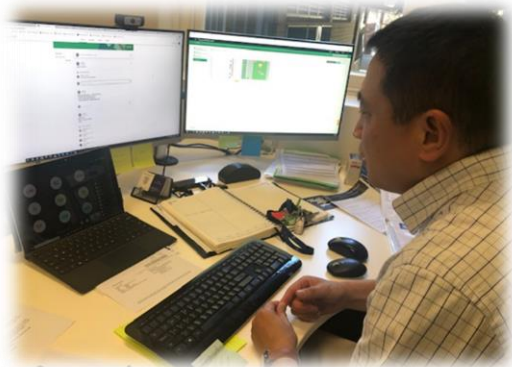
Education Week is a great opportunity to collectively acknowledge and celebrate the achievements our own and all schools operating in a remote teaching and learning setting. School communities are living proof of being 'lifelong learners' as we navigate the challenges we face in maintaining high standards and expectations to address the continuity of learning for all concerned, teachers, students and their parents.

**I would like to express my appreciation to our teachers and school support staff who despite these challenging times, continue to show strength, resilience and a commitment to ensuring the best outcomes for our students.**

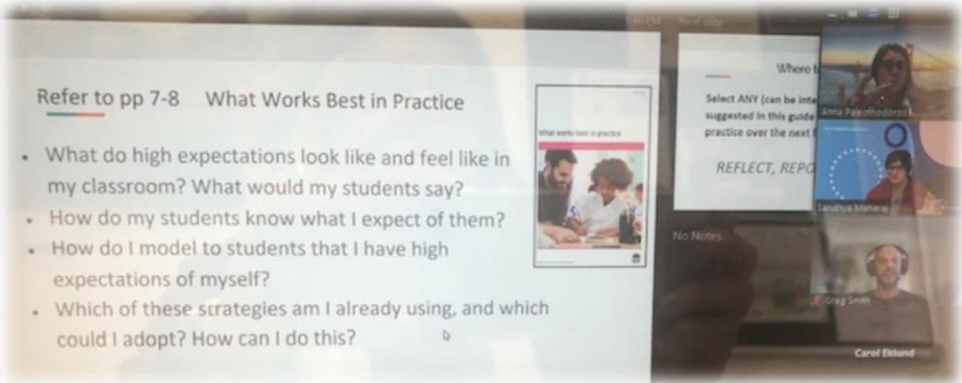
Please stay safe, look after your families and most importantly, follow the COVID restrictions so we can all get back to a more normal life- whatever the new-normal may be!

We can't wait to have all our teachers and girls back on site.

Regards  
Sandhya Maharaj  
Relieving Principal



Online Teaching and Learning



Our deserted quad and front office  
We're missing YOU!

