



St Agnes Catholic High School

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Dear Parents & Carers

Our Year 12 cohort are rapidly approaching the end of their time here at St Agnes and there are a number of important issues that I wish to draw to your attention.

Attendance and Final Preparations for HSC Examinations

After 22nd October, teachers will continue to be available for all timetabled lessons until the beginning of the HSC exams. Students are welcome to contact their teacher via email or zoom sessions to discuss key issues or feedback on practice exams. Some students will be very pleased with the results of their Final HSC assessments. However, for some students, the results of these clearly indicate the need for a far more committed and determined approach to study. It is still possible to achieve good HSC results if students are prepared to work as effectively as they can in class and study seriously for at least 3 hours each night 6-8 hours every day over the study break leading up to the HSC examinations. Now is the time to reassess priorities and, in particular, to reduce or eliminate part-time work commitments and social activities and focus on study.

Year 12 Reports

I encourage all students to respond positively to the feedback provided by their teachers in the report and their Final HSC tasks. Reports will be ready for the students to collect from the Front Office as of Friday 22/10. I encourage parents to discuss the report with their son/daughter and for them to implement feedback given by their teachers.

Graduation Day

Following advice from CEDP, this will now take place on Monday 13th December, 2021 (*this has been changed from 29th October*); students will attend their Graduation Mass and Awards Ceremony. All students are expected to attend in full school uniform which includes blazers. At the time of writing, due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents, families and supporters will not be able to attend the event. As advised earlier, it will be broadcast live on YouTube and will be available afterwards on YouTube as well. We encourage as many families and supporters as possible to join us online. Further information will be sent in due course.

Year 12 Formal

Tuesday 14th December at *Cropley House*, 84 Watkins Road, Baulkham Hills. Students will enter the venue at 6pm, however they can arrive earlier to take photos in the gardens. The Formal will conclude at 10:30pm. Students need to make their own transport arrangements to and from the venue. There is plenty of onsite parking for students, parents and staff. We are still finalising the cost of the tickets for students, however we have estimated the cost will be between \$80-\$90. We will endeavour to keep the cost as minimal as possible. In the coming weeks, another letter will be sent to students which will outline the payment process. Please contact the school if you have any queries related to your fees and other outstanding accounts.

HSC Examinations

Some of our students have already completed the practical components of their examination. The written examinations commence on **Tuesday 9th November** and conclude no later than **Friday 3rd December**. The timetable can be downloaded from the NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) website. It is absolutely essential that students arrive in sufficient time for the examinations - **at least 20 minutes prior**.

For the examinations, students must wear their full summer school uniform.

NESA regulations specify that mobile phones and smart watches cannot be taken into the examination room. Any student found to have a phone or smart watch in the examination room will receive an automatic disqualification from that exam and receive a mark of zero.

HSC Assessment

Order of Merit Details Assessment Rank Orders issued by NESA are available online from 12.30pm 3rd December 2021. This information is available from the Students' Online website which can be accessed at www.studentsonline.nesa.nsw.edu.au

Review of HSC Assessment Rank

Every student has the option of seeking a review of their assessment rank, if their position in the school's order of merit differs significantly from the expectations from feedback on their performance throughout the course.

The grounds for any review are very clearly laid out in the HSC Regulations.

There are only three such grounds:

- i) that the weightings used by the school in its Assessment Program do not conform with the NESA's requirements as detailed in the subject guidelines;
- ii) that the school's assessment procedures did not conform with the Assessment Program issued to students;
- iii) that there has been a computational error in determining the Assessment Mark.

A review cannot be sought for any other reason; marks awarded in individual Assessment Tasks are not subject to review.

Should any student seek a review, they must inform the Principal in writing, detailing the grounds for the review by 10th December. If such a request should eventuate, the procedures to be followed will be explained to the student.

Return of Books

Students obviously need access to textbooks and other borrowed resources during their examinations. I would ask that these be returned immediately after the relevant examination has occurred.

Donations of Uniforms

The school would be very grateful for any donations of uniforms. These items can be brought to the Front Office.

Signing Out Procedures

On Tuesday 7th December (before Graduation), students will need to come to school to complete the sign out procedures. The sign out process should only take 10 minutes if students have done the following:

- returned all text and library books,
- returned any resources to staff.

Students are to meet Mr Scarpin/Mr Conte on the front verandah between 8:30am and 12:00pm to complete their sign out form and then collect their Formal tickets.

HSC Results

This year the official results will be available by telephone, SMS and the internet from 6am 24th January 2022. The ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) will also be released, via the UAC website and *My UAC App* on 20th January 2022.

Thank you for reading this detailed letter. If you require clarification of any of the issues raised, please contact Mr Scarpin, Mr Conte or Mr Kemmis.

I wish all students the very best in these final weeks of their secondary schooling and encourage them to use their time wisely as they prepare for their HSC examinations.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Lisa-Maree Browning
Principal