



27/03/2020

## Re: Current Considerations for Learning

### Dear High School Students, Parents and Caregivers,

As you are all aware, teaching and learning for many is going to look a little different in the coming months as Australia manages the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information on what Term 2 will look like for students will be provided in due course. Teachers are continuing to consider how they can best support learning within an online environment, and this is resulting in the use of tools such as Zoom Meetings, as well as videos, information and other resources being uploaded to Canvas. I am sure that you can understand that this is taking significant time and effort, and we appreciate your support in this regard. In a practical sense, this may mean that staff take longer than normal to provide feedback on student work as we seek to make necessary changes to our practise.

Planned assessment may also need to change during 2020. It is unlikely that students in Year 7-10 will complete supervised assessments such as tests, as this is difficult to manage within the current environment. Other assessment types will be used so that students can demonstrate their understanding. Year 11 and 12 students, however, may still be required to complete Skills and Application Tasks, which in many cases take on the form of a traditional supervised test. These tasks are required by the SACE Board. Where this is required, students and parents / caregivers need to be aware that the following, through negotiation, may be necessary:

- A time may be negotiated for students who have been working from home to complete a supervised task at school (this could be during the school term or during the holidays).
- Some tests may be completed electronically (both at school and at home).
- Some tests may need to be emailed to parents/caregivers, and then completed by students at home. The test could be printed at home, completed by hand, scanned and then sent by the parent/caregiver to the teacher. Alternatively, the test could be completed electronically and emailed to the teacher.
- If a test is completed at home, confirmation will be required from both the student and parent / caregiver that the test was completed under appropriate test conditions.
- Audio-Visual evidence of test completion may be requested.
- Teachers may need to verify student understanding with a follow-up conversation.

Within each scenario provided above, it is imperative that teachers are confident that work submitted is that of the student, and that academic integrity has been maintained throughout the process. A partnership of trust between school and home has never been so important, and this is further recognised by the College in our appreciation of the important role that parents and caregivers play in students completing work from home.

We would also request that during times of self-isolation, students concentrate on the completion of school-work during normal school hours. Under no circumstances should the current situation be seen as an opportunity for students to accept additional work hours.

If you have any questions about any of the information included within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Sincerely

Tim Maddern (Director of Curriculum)